THE TIMES

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THE TIMES

Tomorrow

An Englishman's castle: Two of the most beautiful stately homes of England will soon be passing out of the hands of the families who have cherished them. Hever Castle, home of the Astor family for 80 years, has been sold and its estate is about to be auctioned. Kedleston Hall, where the Curzons have lived for more than 800 years, is to be offered to the nation in settlement of a tax bill. Spectrum tomorrow looks at the past, present and future of these great houses and the people whose lives have revolved round them.

On the Friday Page, best-selling novelist Judith Krantz explains her own particular brand of escapism from a dreary world.

IRA victim defied army rules

Sergeant Brian Purvis, whose wife was shot dead by the Provisional IRA at her mother's home in Londonderry, had defied army regulations by being there. He was seriously injured in the attack.

The sergeant, who is stationed at Wimborne, Dorset, had obtained permission to accompany his Ulster-born wife on condition that he stayed with army friends at military married quarters Page 3

Shift to right in Transvaal

The South African Government suffered a setback in four crucial by-elections in Transvaal, with the results underlining the continuing shift to the right of the white electorate. The by-elections were seen as a limited plebiscite on the Nationalist Government's controversial constitutional reforms Page 6

Sakharov ban

Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Nobel Prize winner, cannot leave the Soviet Union, Tass said yesterday. The announcement came soon after Dr Sakharov had said he was willing to leave the country.

Roach decision

The inquest into the death of Colin Roach, the black youth who died of shotgun wounds in the entrance of a London police station, is to resume on June 6 at Clerkenwell County Court

Vienna coalition

The Socialists and the right-wing Freedom Party have reached agreement on a new Austrian Government. Together they have a majority of 21 in the 183-seat Parliament elected on April 24

Trade call

Steps for closer cooperation between the International Monetary Fund and other world agencies to liberalize trade were urged by representatives of leading Western nations and Japan at a meeting in Paris Page 25

French loan

France has applied for a 30 billion franc loan from the EEC to boost foreign exchange reserves. Community ministers are expected to approve the request on Monday Page 8

Aga Khan sale

A magnificent collection of African art belonging to the Aga Khan's uncle and estimated to be worth £750,000, is to be sold at Sotheby's next month Page 16

Labour agrees its election manifesto at record speed

● The Labour Party took just over an hour to agree its manifesto, adopting the campaign document it published in March
● A Gallup opinion poll, conducted at the weekend and published today, shows the Conservatives hava a $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent lead over Labour
● The Labour Party selected Mr Reginald Freeson, the sitting MP, as candidate for Brent, East, overruling the local party's preference for Mr Kenneth Livingstone
● Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr David Steel demanded equal broadcasting time for the SDP-Liberal Alliance during the campaign

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Labour Party's pre-election unity reached its zenith yesterday when the parliamentary leadership and the National Executive Committee (NEC) agreed in little more than an hour on the party manifesto, by the painless method of simply adopting the 15,000-word campaign document, "The New Hope for Britain", which they published in March.

The joint meeting of the parliamentary committee (or the *Shadow Cabinet*) and the NEC is prescribed by Clause 5 (2) of the party constitution to "decide which items from the party programme shall be included in the manifesto" and to "define the attitude of the party to the principal issues" not covered by the manifesto.

At past elections the "clause 5 meeting" has seen some classic disputes, with party leaders, notably in recent years Sir Harold Wilson and Mr James Callaghan, being accused of using their position to impose the Shadow Cabinet's views, or even their own views, on the party and to override the NEC.

In 1979 Mr Callaghan was bitterly accused by the left on the NEC in particular of ensuring that there was no manifesto commitment to abolish the House of Lords.

But yesterday there were no votes and very little argument. Mr James Mortimer, the general secretary, said afterwards that it was the fastest clause 5 meeting in the history of the party.

After Mr Sam McCluskie, party chairman, convened the meeting Mr Wedgwood Benn *spoke first and recommended* that the campaign documents be adopted without substantial amendment. Mr Michael Foot, the leader, and Mr John Golding, Mr Benn's successor as chairman of the home policy committee, and more often than not Mr Benn's opponent in the past, spoke in the same sense.

Only Mr Peter Shore, the shadow Chancellor, argued for a new draft to be written, objecting to the document's pedestrian language, but giving his hearers the impression that he disliked much of the content.

So the contract which Labour is offering the electors is the familiar one, including heavy state spending to expand the economy with the aim of reducing unemployment to below a million within five years, the pursuit of a non-nuclear defence policy and withdrawal from the European Community.

It was agreed that Mr Foot would write a fresh foreword, updating for the campaign – but certainly not modifying – his blast against the Prime Minister for worshipping the profit motive.

The pledge to increase the retirement pension "as soon as *practicable*" by £1.45 for a single person and £2.25 for a married couple will be added to the so-called emergency programme from which it is said to have been omitted by accident.

But there will be no other changes and no new policy in the document, which be re-published on Monday.

It was also agreed to print a "popular" 2,500-word leaflet of selected goodies from *the main* document for pushing through letter-boxes. Its balder, briefer language has some interesting omissions. It does not tell the householder that the aim is to close all nuclear bases and leave the European Community within five years. But Mr Mortimer emphasized that the manifesto is the authoritative document.

He explained that the text had been "very tightly written – every sentence means something", and that it had been pointed out at the meeting, he did not say by whom, that there was "a balance of commitments at each stage, and that even an abbreviation might distort the balance".

Continued on back page, col 4

Mrs Shirley Williams, SDP president, receives support from show business stars after a lunch at her party's headquarters in London yesterday. They are (from left) Steve Race, Barry Cryer, Dennis Quillen and Sir Richard Attenborough.

Full-time union officials strike

From David Felton Labour Correspondent

Full-time union officials will walk out on strike today and halt their union conference after delegates voted overwhelmingly for an investigation which could lead to cuts in their pay.

The decision by the full-time officials to go on strike was proposed at a lunch-time meeting yesterday by Mr Alastair Graham, the union's general-secretary.

The conference of the Civil and *Public Services Association* agreed the investigation by a 2-1 majority despite complaints that "If you pay peanuts, you get monkeys" from some delegates, who supported the full-time officers.

The strike will involve more than 200 members of the Association of Professional Executive Clerical and Computer Staffs (Apex) and is likely to last for an hour both in Brighton, where the conference is being held, and among the union's head office staff in London.

Rank and file union members were solidly behind the investi*gation, according to some* delegates, comparing the £22,201 a year earned by the union's general-secretary, with the £5,000 a year earned by union members working in Government offices.

The left-wing delegates argued that the high salaries earned by full-time officials removed them from the ordinary members and made it more difficult for them to argue the union's case in wage negotiations with the Government.

The investigation was backed by the union's left-wing executive which also guaranteed that there would be no pay cuts for those officials currently working for the union.

Affiliation ballot, page 2

Livingstone selection blocked by NEC

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Labour Party yesterday effectively killed the hopes of Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council, of becoming an MP next month, but it could face trouble from the local party which wanted him as its candidate.

Mr Livingstone, in an interview with *The Times* last night, described as deplorable the decision by Labour's national executive committee to select Mr Reginald Freeson, the sitting MP, as candidate for Brent, East. But he has confirmed that *he does not intend* to take legal action to change the decision.

However, the local party will tonight consider going ahead with its own selection procedure and taking the national executive committee to court.

Mr Livingstone has warned Mr Michael Foot, the party leader, and Mr James Mortimer, Labour's general secretary, that there is a real risk this will happen. "I urged them not to go down the road they have gone down."

He said that he had no right to give the local party advice and would accept its decision. "They may decide that the way the NEC have twisted the rules so consistently gives them the chance to go to court", he said in a BBC radio interview.

He told *The Times*: "If company directors had behaved as they (the NEC) have done they would have been indicted for fraud."

Mr Freeson, a former Labour Housing Minister, has been under pressure in his local party throughout the present Parliament. He is opposed by a majority of his general management committee which backs Mr Livingstone.

But for a variety of reasons, including an NEC inquiry into activities in the local party and a separate complaint by Mr Freeson about an alleged secret caucus meeting which organized backing for Mr Livingstone, the compulsory procedure under which the sitting MP has to be reselected has never taken place.

Yesterday, inspite of fierce opposition from the left led by Mr Wedgwood Benn, the NEC *by 19 votes to nine backed the* action of Mr David Hughes, Labour's national agent, of declaring Mr Freeson to be the candidate in line with the party's rules for constituency Labour parties.

Mr Livingstone (left) and Mr Freeson.

They lay down that that in circumstances where a dissolution of Parliament is announced before a reselection process has taken place the sitting MP shall be reselected.

Similarly Mr Laurence Pavitt has been declared reselected in the neighbouring constituency of Brent, South, *the only other* constituency where the reselection procedure has not taken place.

● Mr Arthur Lewis, Labour MP for Newham, North-West, who was ousted as his party's candidate by a left-winger, is to stand against him at the general election, the Press Association reports.

Yesterday Mr Lewis announced that he would be contesting the seat as the "Official Labour candidate for 38 years".

Alliance demands TV parity

By Our Political Staff

Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr David Steel last night demanded equal broadcasting time for the SDP-Liberal Alliance during the general election campaign.

Supported by their chief whips, Mr John Roper and Mr Alan Beith, the Alliance leaders went into a private meeting with the broadcasting authorities and Tory and Labour front-benchers to press for an equal allocation of election broadcasts *and, perhaps more* significantly, air time during television and radio news programmes.

The Tories, led by Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons, and Mr Michael Jopling, the Chief Whip, and the Labour Party, represented by Mr John Silkin, Shadow Commons leader and Mr Michael Cocks, Opposition Chief Whip, were determined to resist the demand, arguing that the Alliance should be allocated three broadcasts to every five allocated to them, the ratio which applied during the last election when the Liberals stood alone.

The broadcasting authorities, represented by Mr Alasdair Milne, Director-General of the BBC, and Mr John Whitney, Director-General of the IBA, had put forward a proposal that *the broadcasts should be allocated* on a ratio of 5:5:4.

But Mr Steel, who said that it would be monstrous if the two main parties refused parity, and Mr JJenkins argued that the success of the Alliance in by-elections since the SDP was formed and the fact that the Alliance is contesting every seat in Britain required it to be granted equal time.

The two main parties argued that the allocation should reflect th state of the parties after the last election.

Prisoners on run after van escape

By Rupert Morris

Two men were at large in the south of England last night after escaping from a prison van on the way to Parkhurst prison on the Isle of Wight. *Four others were recaptured.*

Police from Surrey, Hampshire and Sussex forces were searching for them with the aid of dogs and a helicopter after a bizarre series of incidents including a chase across a golf course, the hijacking of a car, and an attempt by one prisoner to board a train for London posing as a detective.

At about 10am, north of Liphook, Hampshire on the A3, a mock fight was staged by several of the men, who were among 14 dangerous but not top security prisoners being taken by van from Wandsworth prison, London, to Parkhurst.

Two prisoners put their handcuffed arms round the neck of Mr John Ship, the principal officer, and wrestled him to the floor, while others tried to kick the windows out.

The other four prison officers managed briefly to regain control but, as the van slowed before a railway bridge south of Liphook, the fighting began again and three prisoners escaped from the emergency rear door after wrestling the handcuff keys from one of the officers.

With the fighting continuing, the driver stopped the van at *the other side of the bridge* and a further three prisoners escaped, running on to Liphook golf course.

Of the first group of escapers, one was recaptured after attempting to board a train to London.

Mr David Thorne, the booking clerk at Liphook station, said: "He had commandeered a Post Office van and ordered the driver to get to the station as quickly as possible because he was chasing escaped prisoners. He even had the cheek to ask the postman for 10p for a telephone call. He told me he was from the CID, and that he was keeping an eye on the station for escaped prisoners."

After waiting on the platform for 25 minutes, the prisoner was arrested by a uniformed policeman about a *minute* before the train arrived.

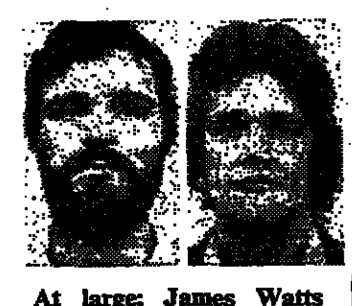
Mr Thorne said the prisoner was "smartly dressed in a blue suit", but added that "he looked a bit rough because he had a burn on his right cheek and a scar on his left cheek". Reports that three of the escaped prisoners were in plain clothes were denied last night by the Home Office.

The two other prisoners who jumped out of the moving van persuaded a motorist to give *them a lift to Guildford* hospital, after saying they had been involved in an accident.

Passing several police cars racing in the other direction, the fugitives arrived at the *hospital where one was re*ported to have eye, face and ear injuries. But they disappeared before either could be treated.

At the golf course, Mr Michael Standing, the head greenkeeper, was driving his buggy along the main road when he was overtaken by the prison van "with the back door open, and someone swearing blue murder".

Shortly afterwards, he saw the van stop and three men get out and run on to the course, pursued by a prison officer. Mr Standing drove back to the clubhouse; another member of his staff subsequently saw one of the men cross the A3 in the direction of Longmoor.



At large: James Watts (left) and Anthony Jones.

Meanwhile, Mr James Stewart, aged 64, a retired telephone engineer, had just left the sixteenth green. "Suddenly, off the A3 charged four or five *chaps, covering 100 yards* in about 12 seconds. They charged up th sixteenth fairway, and them we saw they were being pursued a man in uniform.

"He shouted at us, 'For God's sake, phone the police'. At that moment the postman came round the corner in his van, on his way to the clubhouse, and we told him to *tell the secretary.* "We played the next two holes, but my opponent must have been put off because he lost the next, and I won the match two and one."

Commander John Ashton, secretary of the Liphook golf

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Use of royal scarlet reclaimed

By *Clifford Longley* Religious Affairs Correspondent

In deference to the wishes of the Queen, the Church of England has been asked to phase out the use of scarlet vestments worn by choristers and servers.

Guidance issued to the church yesterday specifies that scarlet should be reserved for royal chaplains and other clergy connected with the Royal Household.

The Clerk of the Closet, the Right Rev John Bickersteth, who is the Bishop of Bath and Wells, has written to all bishops saying that scarlet vestments should be replaced with another colour as they wear out. The Queen was anxious not to cause those concerned extra expense.

Other shades of red are permissible, but should be chosen to avoid clashing with those scarlet garments which were still in use.

The bishop suggests replacement vestments could be bought in pairs, so that the colour effect in churches would look more natural, but he admits: "They will look rather like a deanery choir festival for a *bit*."

The adoption of the royal livery colour had happened "in all innocence", the bishop added. It first came to light when the Queen visited one of the cathedrals,

Second black found dead in Transvaal cell

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

A second black man died last week in the Dirkiesdorp police station in south-eastern Transvaal, it was disclosed yesterday.

The dead man was identified by captain Nic Janeke of the Eastern Transvaal police as Mr Zofania Sibanyoni, aged 33. He said that Mr Sibanyoni had been found dead in the polce station kitchen on Wednesday night.

Captain Janeke said that Mr Sibanyoni had been taken to the police station as "a suspect in a case of stock theft".

The other dead man, Mr Timothy Manana, who according to the police died in his cell on Tuesday last week had also been arrested for alleged stock *theft*.

Bishops urge strict rules on embryo fertilization

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The techniques of fertilizing embryos outside the mother's womb should be subject to strict limitations to prohibit experiments, a committee representing the Roman Catholic bishops of Great Britain has recommended to the Warnock inquiry into human fertilization.

The committee, under the Most Rev Thomas Winning, Archbishop of Glasgow, stated in its evidence, published today, that new medical procedures must not be allowed to undermine "the basic dignity of human beings."

This could happen if fertilized embryos were treated as "a mere means to an end," and not given the respect due to human life. Although the committee envisages in vitro techniques being approved, subject to tight conditions, it also expresses misgivings at the idea itself.

It separated the conception and *early development of* human life from its proper context of loving sexual intercourse within marriage, thus threatening moral values which the church defended and possibly *altering the status* of the child in respect to its parents.

Among the practices the committee found unacceptable were the storing of frozen embryos in banks for drug testing or tissue transplants, "surrogate" motherhood and fatherhood, so called "womb leasing" or egg donation from one woman to another, and cloning and trans-species fertilization.

Parker reports £174m BR loss

By Michael Baily Transport Editor

Sir Peter Parker, the British Rail chairman, yesterday reported to the nation a £174 million loss for the last year, but followed it up with good news.

There are to be no further fare increases this year. In addition tough measures, such as manpower cuts and productivity improvements have increased dramatically British Rail's prospects. Investment is to be doubled over the next five years to £400m-£500m, he told a London press conference.

This would bring better commuter and rural trains, more punctual and reliable services, and more attractive stations. It would reverse the "crumbling edge of quality" to which he has constantly referred in his seven years' chairmanship.

Sir Peter declined to join Mr James Knapp, new general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, in condemning the Conservatives as anti-rail and calling for a Labour government to save the railways, BR was now well on the way to an assured future by its *own efforts.*

Whichever party was returned next month would face tough decisions on London commuter and rural services. But whereas last year's strikes had cost BR £170m and turned a break-even situation into a £174m loss, it was the culmination of productivity improvements worth £250m a year which could be invested in an improving railway, irrespective of politics.

BR's latest annual report shows that manpower reductions, at 27,000 over the past two years, were well ahead of the target 38,000 over five years. A further 10,000 are expected this year.

Strikes blamed for £174m loss, *page 4*

ELECTION JUNE 83 PM on Jimmy Young show ● Finance Bill casualties ● CND challenged

Thatcher steps up the campaign with attack on unilateralism

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday described the Soviet Union as the "sworn enemies" of the West, in an interview which significantly stepped up her attack on Labour's plans for unilateral nuclear disarmament.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher said on the *Jimmy Young* programme on BBC radio: "You do not, if you really hate nuclear weapons, as I do, you do not say we will have one-sided disarmament and throw out all the American bases, leave all the weapons in the hands of our sworn enemies then hope to goodness they will negotiate. Of course they won't."

Mrs Thatcher said: "The Warsaw Pact, Russia, is the greatest threat to the freedom of the West and she doesn't hesitate to use her tanks to roll in, not only to the satellite countries, but to Afghanistan. We shall never forget that."

She said that Britain and her allies could only negotiate from strength, but when asked, specifically, whether she would hope to meet the Soviet leader, she replied: "I don't see why we should always go the Moscow to see Mr Andropov, do you?

"Mr Andropov has never set foot in a non-communist country, he has never breathed the air of freedom, he doesn't know what it is like. This is one of the problems when you are dealing with communist countries; they don't know what it is like for people to have human rights which do not depend on government."

"I am not going to ask Mr Andropov here. What I think would be better is if we had a few conferences where Mr Andropov came, perhaps to a neutral country outside the Soviet Union.

"Eventually, you know, it is better that we talk. We do talk in various conferences, but I just don't think that everyone should stream to Moscow to see Mr Andropov."

Mrs Thatcher also stepped up the strength of her condemnation of Labour's policy to withdraw from the European Economic Community.

She said that the consequences of withdrawal would be "absolutely disastrous." With 43 per cent of British exports going to the Community, there would be a threat to export-based employment. She also emphasized the importance to the world of democracies working together within an area of stability.

"I think it would be terrifying to take us out," she said. "Terrifying for future of democracy, terrifying for the future of jobs. It would be total confusion, and industry would all of a sudden find barriers put up against her when she tried to export into Europe, so our exports would be more expensive. Confusion would reign."

Asked about the Stuttgart summit, on June 6 and 7, Mrs Thatcher said that her attendance would depend on the success of preliminary talks. "If it were just a question of doing the final negotiations there, obviously one would go."

The Prime Minister said that the choice between Conservative and Labour made the general election extremely important. "I believe the Labour Party wants to change the sort of society which we have. I believe it wants to go to a much, much more controlled society: more state industries, more state control, bigger taxation. I believe the British people don't want it."

She said that the Conservative Government had wrought a fundamental change in Britain. The country had regained its confidence and self-respect and had attracted a new regard and admiration from abroad.

"We are a marvellous people. The fundamental thing about us", she said, "is that whether we are the 23½ million in work or the three million who unfortunately haven't got work, whatever part we come from, from all walks of life, we are united by a common belief that this is a free country and it is going to stay that way, and that that is worth defending, and we are going to defend it."

Heseltine challenge to CND

By Nicholas Timmins

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament should put up election candidates and see how much support it would get if it really wants credibility, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, said yesterday.

He said that he thought CND wanted to elevate itself to the status of government. His proposal was dismissed as absurd by Mgr Bruce Kent, general secretary of CND, whose policy is not run its own candidates or to endorse any individual party or candidate.

Mr Ray Whitney, Conservative MP for Wycombe accused the CND of giving advice on election campaign tactics to its local groups that went "well beyond the activities of pressure groups to which we have all become accustomed".

Ways in which CND proposed to put pressure on candidates, for example by ensuring adverse publicity to any candidate who refused to take part in meetings organized by CND would, Mr Whitney said, "be of interest to all of us who support the democratic parliamentay process".

Mgr Kent said: "If what we are doing is outside the law, which we do not believe it is, no doubt Mr Whitney has his remedies. We are simply exercising our democratic right in this country to make our opinions known".

Pym picks chief for anti-disarmament

By Peter Hennessy

Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, has appointed a senior diplomat to head the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's contribution to the Government's drive against the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

He is Mr Herbert "Tommy" Tucker, who returned to London recently after a tour as Consul-General in Vancouver. His official title is Disarmament Information Coordinator.

Mr Pym made the appointment before the general election was called. Mr Tucker will be the Foreign Office's equivalent of Mr John Ledlie, the choice of Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, to lead his department's counter-CND unit.

Mr Tucker has been acting as the Foreign Office's link with the Ministry of Defence in planning the Government's response to CND. He attends the gathering of officials which prepares material for Mr Heseltine's weekly meeting of ministers on nuclear weapons and public opinion.

Mr Tucker, aged 57, an official of counsellor rank, has a background in journalism and the Government Information Service as well as experience of more mainstream diplomatic work.

He served for a time in the 1960s as number two in the Foreign Office's now disbanded Information Research Department, which existed from 1948 to 1977 as Britain's riposte to disinformation originating in the Soviet block.

Now that the age of détente, for the time being, has passed, there are voices in ministerial and official circles calling for the Information Research Department to be revived in some form. They point to the strength of the peace movement in western Europe and the accession to power in the Soviet Union of Mr Yuri Andropov, former head of the KGB and a disinformation expert.

The Foreign Office issued a statement to *The Times* about Mr Tucker's appointment: "In recent months there has been a big increase in letters to the FCO from the public and in requests for information and speakers on arms control and disarmament subjects. This has placed a heavy additional burden on those dealing with policy matters.

"It was therefore decided to appoint Mr Tucker to help with this work and to coordinate between FCO departments and between the FCO and MoD in this area."

An official spokesman added yesterday: "Mr Tucker is taking the opportunity of the election to have some holiday and to continue his research into the subject. This is a completely open and responsive appointment. There is no question of its involving a recrudescence of Information Research Department activity".



Healey's Comet

IN BRIEF

5p TV licence shelved

The 5p television licence concession for about 43,000 physically disabled and mentally disordered people, announced in February by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, have had to be shelved because of the election announcement. Regulations had not been laid before Parliament for the necessary 28 *days before the* measure could be approved.

● **A visit to London next week by Mr Vladimir Promislov, mayor of Moscow, at the invitation of the Greater London Council, has been postponed because of the election. Mr Harvey Hinds, GLC chairman, said that the could not guarantee the visit would not be drawn into the political debate.**

● **Mr Hugh Dykes, Conservative MP for Harrow, East in London has been unanimously adopted to fight the enlarged seat. At the last election he had a majority of 7,878 over Labour.**

● **The Wessex Regionalist Pary will contest at least nine seats on a platform of self government for Devon, Dorset Somerset, Wilthsire Hampshire and Berkshire.**

● **Dr Garret FitzGerald, Prime Minister of the Irish Repbulic said yesterday he would seek top-level discussions on Northern Ireland with whichever party was victorious.**

● **BBC breakfast television will be extended by an hour from Monday for Sir Rovin Day's *Election Call* to be broadcast simultaneously on Radio4.**

● **Four unions with members in educational establishments and the National Union of Students will campaign in marginal constituencies in the election to draw attention to education cuts.**

● **The visit by Mr Junius Jayewardene, President of Sri Lanka, has been postponed from June 7-10 until October 25-28, because of the election.**

Brittan's pledge on tax

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said last night that an extra 300,000 people would be dragged into the higher income tax bands by Labour amendments to the Finance Bill.

He told the Commons that the Government had had no alternative but to accede to Labour demands, in order to enact the Budget legislation before tomorrow's dissolution of Parliament. But he pledged to reinstate the provisions if the Conservatives were returned to power.

Mr Brittan said that a Labour demand that the 40 per cent tax band should not be increased from £12,800 to £14,600 would affect the middle income group, and it had been misleading for Labour spokesmen to talk of taking benefits from the well-off.

He pointed out that Labour's refusal to sanction an increase in the threshhold for investment income surcharge, from £6,250 to £7,100, would affect an extra 45,000 people, many of them pensioners and widows.

Mr Brittan described Labour's refusal to accept the £5,000 increase in mortgage interest relief, to £30,000, as an act of "mean-mindedness", which would make 150,000 people losers. Basic rate taxpayers with a £30,000 mortgage would be £3 a week worse off.

Official sources stated yesterday there would be a large increase in taxation for higher-rate income earners from September, if the Conservatives were not returned.

Because tax codings would not have to be readjusted to take account of the changed Finance Bill until August 31, if the changes persisted beyond that date the revenue would have to collect underpaid taxes for an estimated 950,000 high-bracket taxpayers.

A married man on twice average earnings, about £17,000 a year, would then be expected to pay back £60 in September, with an increased monthly tax bill of £10. For a married man on three times average earnings, the payment would be £200, with an extra monthly tax bill of £35. For a married man earning about £42,000, there would be a payment of £400, with an increased monthly tax bill of £70.

● Taxpayers will not feel the effects of recent opposition moves to block Budget tax relief on mortgages and higher rates of tax (Lorna Bourke writes). The Finance Bill will contain enabling legislation to allow the Inland Revenue to implement the new higher rate tax thresholds and the £30,000 limit for mortgage interest relief until August.

However, if a Labour government were elected and repealed the Budget provisions, then taxpayers would face a large clawback of tax relief.

● **The visit to Britain by Mr Spyros Kyprianon, the President of Cyprus, next week, has been postponed.**

50 clauses deleted from Finance Bill

By Our Political Correspondent

The agreement between the Government and the Labour Front Bench on the Finance Bill deleted 50 clauses from the legislation.

The entire section on customs and excise duties went through, but two clauses on value-added tax were deleted.

Taxation clauses on 1982 corporation tax, advance corporation tax for 1983, personal reliefs and widows' bereavement allowance were accepted, but clauses on higher rate bands and investment income surcharge, small companies' corporation tax and relief for interest were amended.

In the same general chapter on taxation, the House accepted clauses dealing with loan interest paid under deduction of tax, assigned life policies and annuity contracts, retirement annuity relief, scholarships, living accommodation provided for employee, schedule E payments, covenanted payments for charity, interest relief for money borrowed for investment in an employee-controlled company, profit-sharing schemes, relief for investment in corporate trades, public lending right, employees seconded to charities, and interest to be payable on gross building society certificates of deposit.

Clauses on self-employed presons living in job-related accommodation, share options, apportionment of income of close companies, discounts on bills of exchange were refused.

Remaining clauses in that chapter were also ditched. They were: those dealing with incidental costs of obtaining loan finance; trustee savings banks; group relief for disposals before a company enters a group; group relief for disposals after a company enters a group; stock relief on houses taken in part-exchange; carry-back of advance corporation tax; double taxation relief to be applied before advance corporation tax and recovery of certain taxes in lower courts.

The whole of chapter two of the Bill, dealing with controlled foreign-companies, fell.

In chapter three, on capital allowances, the only deletion was the clause dealing with allowances for dwelling houses let on assured tenancies. Similarly, only one clause survived in chapter four, dealing with capital gains. The surviving clause was election for pooling indexation.

All the third part of the Bill, on capital transfer tax, was deleted, but the chapter on oil taxation was carried without change.

The chapter on assets, relief for expenditure and charge of receipts, fell, as did three clauses on development land tax.

The clause on reduction in national insurance surcharge and miscellaneous provisions on national savings supplements, rates of interest for government savings, suspension of certain payments into the National Loan Fund in respect of new towns, the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and pre-consolidated amendments went through.

The miscellaneous clause on special and general commissioners was deleted and the final clause of the Bill, dealing with short title, interpretation, construction and repeals, was necessarily amended because of the substantive nature of the legislation's changes.

Union chiefs give £2m for poll campaign

Union leaders agreed yesterday to dig deep into their political funds to bankroll Labour's general election campaign.

At least £2m will be made available almost immediately to help the impecunious political wing of the Labour movement to finance a month-long battle to oust Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Mr Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees and leader of last year's marathon National Health Service strike, insisted: "It will be money well spent."

The union is giving another £120,000 to Labour's election war chest, bringing its contribution to £220,000. Up to £50,000 more will be spent by the union in key marginal constituencies.

Similar cash pledges were given by *more than forty* unions meeting yesterday under the umbrella of Trade Unions for Labour Victory, the organization set up shortly before the 1979 election to keep Mr James Callaghan in office.

Mr David Basnett, chairman of TULV, said the unions had guaranteed all the money they were being asked to provide for Labour's election effort. "We are enthusiastic and our organization is now prepared. All the money pledged will be provided. We are anxious to get into the election and I think we can win it.

"We will give Labour something the Tories have not got, that is the enthusiasm and support of working people during the election, as well as all the money from our political funds."

All the main affiliates to the Labour Party are represented in TULV except the miners. They are to be the subject of a separate appeal to Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing leader of the National Union of Mineworkers. A letter was delivered by hand to Mr Scargill from Mr Basnett last night.

A £500,000 fund has also been set up from which unions whose political funds are low can borrow large interest-free loans to make yet more cash available to the Labour Party.

Of the cash gifts already agreed, Nupe is clearly in the lead. Behind it come the middle-ranking unions such as the Technical and Supervisory Section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

The print union Sogat '82 is understood to be making £50,000 available.

● Conservative moves to make it easier for union members to opt out of paying a political levy with their contributions would "rob" the Labour Party of election funds, Mr Basnett said on TV-am (The Press Association reports).

Asked if he thought the present system was fair when "some 40 per cent of trade unionists vote Conservative," Mr Basnett replied: "I doubt that figure . . . but it's a little more democratic than industry, which just gives money to the Tories without any mandate to anybody."

Civil servants face ballot on affiliation to Labour

From David Felton, Labour Correspondent, Brighton

Trade unions support for the Labour Party was given a fillip yesterday when the traditionally non-political Civil and Public Services Association, the largest Civil Service union, agreed to hold a ballot which could lead to affiliation to the party.

The 209,000 members will vote in the autumn on the establishment of a political fund, which could mean affiliation to the Labour Party for the first time since 1927.

Delegates to the union's conference in Brighton agreed to press for the ballot in spite of a warning from Mr Alistair Graham, the general secretary, that the membership was being "alienated because of our increasingly high political profile".

Mr Graham's views were *dismissed by Mr Kevin Roddy,* union president, who said that the loss of members was caused by "allegedly responsible officials of the union appearing in the gutter press attacking the policies of the union and suggesting that members might resign".



Mr Graham (left) and Mr Roddy: Opposing views on political links.

The conference will debate *today* a call for a campaign for affiliation to the Labour Party to run alongside the ballot on the establishment of the political *fund.*

Delegates were told by Mr frank Bonner, representing the union's national executive, that they could not avoid being involved in political affairs because every decision taken by the Government relating to the Civil Service was highly political.

A vote against affiliation would be a "propaganda gift to the Tories in the general election campaign and we would not be easily forgiven by the Labour movement".

Opposition to affiliation was summed up by Mr Dennis White, a delegate from East Anglia, who said that the Labour Party was being torn *apart and he did not want to see* the union going the same way.

Magistrate not first to free killer rapist

Mr Ian Boyd, the Hull stipendiary magistrate criticized for releasing on bail John Rigglesworth, a rapist who killed a woman, disclosed yesterday that he had not previously refused the man bail six times, and had not caused his release, but renewed bail

Mr Boyd, now the stipendiary magistrate in Leeds, said in a statement: "At the committal proceedings which took place before me seven weeks after the original grant of bail, the accused having duly surrendered in answer to his bail, there was no evidence or representation made to me be the prosecution that new circumstances existed whereby bail should not be renewed".

Sale room

$1m record breaker

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A painting entitled "Two Women" by Willem de Kooning broke auction records for a painting by a living artist when it sold for $1,210,000 (estimate $800,000) or £775,641 at Christie's in New York on Tuesday night.

The picture, measuring 40 by 50 inches, was painted in 1955 and is an abstract expressionist work *in which bulging bits of* pink (presumably the women) are scribbled over in black, white, blue and green. It was one of 22 abstract expressionists sent by Harriet Mnuchin Weiner, the wife of a New York stockbroker. They fetched £1.409.903.

With the exception of three very expensive pictures, prices generally ran beyond high estimates – almost unheard of in the contemporary scene where the market is made by dealers with big prices ideas.

There were other records: for Richard Lindner at $330,000 (£211,538); for Sam Francis at $242,000 (£155,128) and for Adolph Gottlieb at $121,000 (£77,564). The big failures were a Rothko, a *Lichtenstein* and a Johns. The evening sale made £2,808,525, with 18 per cent unsold.

Sotheby's major summer sale of Chinese ceramics in Hongkong yesterday made £719,540, with 10 per cent unsold.

Christie's Geneva sale of gold boxes made £803,532, with 23 per cent unsold.

Motorway defects bill settled

The running battle over defects in the "Midland links" raised motorways round Birmingham has been settled by agreement between the Department of Transport and seven contractors who built the links in the 1960s, Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State for Transport, disclosed in the Commons yesterday.

The contractors have agreed, without admitting any legal liability, to pay £1.47m towards costs estimated at about £20m over the past eight years to put right defects in the roads, Mrs Chalker said in a written answer.

Cracks and surface unevenness arose from defects in the supporting structure

University plea

The proposed closure of the building technology department at Brunel University has been referred to Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone in his capacity as university visitor. He has been asked to rule that proper procedures have not been followed.

Sports boost

The Sports Council will make an extra £250,000 available to both Bristol and Tyneside, it was announced by Mr Neil Macfarlane, Minister for Sport, who opened the Redfield leisure centre, Bristol, yesterday.

Teachers' strike

More than 6,000 teachers belonging to the National Association of Schoolteachers/Union of Women Teachers will strike for a half-day on Tuesday to protest over the Inner London Education Authority's wish for an agreement on supervisory duties.

Science report

Underwater upheavals scar Scotland's locks

By the Staff of *Nature*

The calm waters of Scottish lochs sometimes belie events underneath, according to two geologists. Their sonar images of the sides and floors of a loch have revealed that underwater landslides are a much more common occurrence than was previously realized.

Dr John McManus and Dr Robert Duck of the Geology Department of the University of Dundee have used side-scanning sonar to look at the underwater features of Loch Earn, a small loch about six miles in length, roughly 40 miles north of Glasgow.

The images produced by the sonar, which works by timing narrow pulses of sound energy to build up a picture, showed many features which Dr McManus and Dr Duck interpret as underwater landslide scars.

The scars took a number of morphological forms, suggesting that some slides were localized near where small streams entered the loch, whereas others extend for more than 100 metres parallel to the shore. The sonar measurements also showed that the thickness of the scars is generally a few metres.

Although some of the scars are thought to have been formed very quickly by catastrophic failure of the steep slopes of the loch (which are generally at an angle of about 10-20 degrees), others are believed to have formed more slowly by gradual slumping of the lake sediments.

In all, more than 100 underwater scars were identified in Loch Earn and many in Loch Lubnaig near by, suggesting to Dr McManus and Dr Duck that both sediment slumping and slippage on lake slopes are much more common than previous studies of sediment cores from lakes had indicated.

Source: *Nature*, vol 303 p 161, (May 12, 1983).

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Girls 'packed barracks'

From Our Correspondent, Winchester

A soldier, one of the four accused of raping a schoolgirl aged 15 in a barrack-room mass rape, told the Winchester Crown Court yesterday that every night paratroopers broke Army regulations by taking girls into their barracks in Aldershot.

The private, aged 19 told Judge Pain: "The place is always packed with women every night. We are not allowed to, but it happens."

The judge asked: "They go past the guard room unchallenged?" The soldier replied: "Yes. No one ever takes any notice."

The prosecution alleges that the girl was repeatedly raped by at least four or five soldiers while up to 12 crowded around the bed. The four soldiers deny raping the girl in November, 1981. *The hearing continues.*

Overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 28; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 150; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 135; Iraq ID 0.600; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.500; Lebanon L1 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 55; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 120; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $5.00; Spain Pes 180; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria L$8.50; Tunisia Din 0.600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 80.

Distribution of cinema films criticized by monopolies commission

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The system of distributing and exhibiting films in British cinemas, which is largely carried out by two distributors and two exhibitors, amounts to a monopoly which is against the public interest, according to a report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, published yesterday.

The commission found that a number of monopolies existed which favoured the distributors Columbia-EMI-Warner Distributors and United International Pictures (UK), which have about 50 per cent of the market, and the exhibitors, EMI Cinemas and Rank Leisure, which between them take about 80 per cent of the market.

There was no comment from the companies last night, but film-makers said that the commission's conclusion was welcome if not unexpected, but probably too late.

Mr Lindsay Anderson, the film director, said the only surprising thing was that the monopoly had gone on so long without being confirmed. "It is a difficulty that we have all been trying to cope with. The effect of the choice for the release of films being in the hands of these two bodies has militated particularly against British films and their financing."

Short animated and documentary films had been especially badly done by because they were rejected in favour of travelogues, but many potential full-length films had never even been made because of the need to arrange the finance and distribution before shooting, he said.

"This report is almost too late. The two exercised a virtual monopoly which has been a very bad influence on the circulation of films, and their monopoly of the two cinema chains has allowed the cinemas to be run down and become less attractive to audiences", Mr Anderson said.

The commission's report pointed to the monopolies existing through the practice of alignment, whereby distributors normally first offer their films to EMI or Rank in preference to other exhibitors, and through the practice of barring, which results from long-standing arrangements between exhibitors about which cinemas will show a film first.

The report concluded that the only effective remedy to the adverse effects of the system of alignment would be the reduction of a substantial number of EMI and Rank cinemas, but that this would not be practical. At present EMI operates 119 cinemas with 308 screens, while Rank has 89 cinemas with 225 screens.

Mr Jack Gold, another film-maker, recalled that his film *The Bofors Gun* failed to get a national circuit showing.

Regular casuals win rights

The General, Municipal and Boilerakers Union's attempt to bring regularly employed casual workers in the catering trade within the scope of job security rights won backing from the Employment Appeal Tribunal in London yesterday.

The tribunal held that three wine waiters engaged on a regular casual basis by Trust House Forte were "employees" entitled to claim unfair dismissal redress.

But Mr Justice Browne-Wilkinson, the tribunal president emphasized: "We are not deciding that all casuals are employees either in the catering trade or elsewhere."

The three waiters concerned were among casual workers regularly called on in preference to others to wait at banquets at the company's Grosvenor House Hotel. They claimed that as they were expected to attend when called for functions, and the amount of work was extensive and repetitive, they were entitled to "employee" status.

The tribunal allowed an appeal by the three, backed by the union, against a London industrial tribunal decision blocking their claims on a preliminary legal point.

The industrial tribunal had held that the waiters were in business on their own account as independent contractors and were not entitled to redress under employment protection legislation.

Trust Houses Forte, which had resisted the appeal, was given leave to refer the ruling to the Court of Appeal.

Miss Tess Gill, the union's legal officer, said: "It justifies the stand the union has been taking in seeking to get regular casuals the protection of employee status. Today's decision opens up a wide range of rights for them."

The three waiters are Mr Harry Kelley, of Marylebone, London, Mr Thomas Pearman, of Cuffley, Hertfordshire, and Mr Philip Florent, of Lambeth south, London.

Their claims are a test case for about 20 other waiters who have also filed unfair dismissal complaints against THF.



Royal return: The Prince and Princess of Wales arriving at Heathrow airport yesterday after their 10-day holiday in the island of Eleuthera in the Bahamas. They looked suntanned and fully recovered from their gruelling six-week tour of Australia and New Zealand. The couple travelled first-class on the Boeing 747 from Miami as Mr and Mrs C Smith. The Princess, her hair bleached blonde by the sun, wore a simple dress.

The couple shook hands with senior airport officials before being driven to a reunion with Prince William, who returned with his nursemaid at the end of the tour. (Photograph: John Voos).

IRA kills wife of sergeant who broke visit rules

From A Correspondent, Belfast

An army sergeant whose wife was murdered by Provisional IRA gunmen in Londonderry on Tuesday night and who was himself seriously injured, as well as a sister-in-law, was in defiance of Ministry of Defence regulations by being at his mother-in-law's home.

Sergeant Brian Purvis, aged 33, who is stationed at Wimborne, Dorset had obtained army permission to accompany his Ulster-born wife Alice, who was aged 47, on a visit to her family, but only on the basis that he would stay with army friends at military married quarters in Londonderry, whose address he had given.

But unknown to officers at the headquarters of the local 8 Infantry Brigade, who had approved his visit, he was staying with his in-laws on the Provisional IRA-dominated Gobnascale estate, where IRA graffiti adorn the walls and where the Provisionals murdered a young woman enumerator during the 1981 census.

Sergeant Purvis and his wife were watching television with his mother-in-law, Mrs Esther Kelly, aged 78, two of her other daughters and three grandchildren at about 10.30pm on Tuesday when two masked gunmen walked in. Pointing handguns at Sergeant Purvis, they ordered him out as his wife pushed one of them away and her younger sister, Mrs Nancy Wasson, jumped up to stand in front of the sergeant.

There was a scuffle during which two shots were fired, one by each gunman. One shot hit Mrs Purvis in the back and she died before reaching hospital. The other injured Sergeant Purvis in the elbow and chest and his sister-in-law in the hip.

After emergency surgery his condition was described yesterday as serious, but stable and Mrs Wasson was said to be satisfactory. Mrs Kelly, who has been bedridden since a stroke three years ago, was under heavy sedation.

The Provisional IRA yesterday admitted responsibility for the murder, but called it an accident. It said that after its men had ordered the soldier out, one had then been tackled by several women. In the ensuing scuffle a shot was accidentally discharged. The other man had then shot the sergeant.

When a customer can refuse to pay bills

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Householders faced with a builder's bill for roof repairs which is twice the quotation because work has taken much longer than estimated are not obliged to pay, a *Which* report says today.

Under the Supply of Goods and Services Act, 1982, fully in force from July 4 this year, householders are entitled to reasonable standards of service, using suitable materials in a reasonable time, it says. "If you were given a precise quotation for the job then the firm should stick to that figure unless you had agreed further work along the way."

The law also, for example, protects people whose children knock over and break coffee jars at a supermarket against demands of payment. The parents are not obliged to pay if reasonable care has been taken to control the child.

In restaurants, diners are not obliged to pay value-added tax or a service charge if they have not been mentioned on the menu.

Noise expert troubled by tattoo

From Our Correspondent
Edinburgh

A neighbour of Miss Elizabeth Webster, who is seeking a court order effectively banning the Edinburgh military tatoo, told the Court of Session yesterday that his household was reduced to silence when spectators began stamping their feet in time to music at the event.

Mr Richard Matthews, the managing director of Andrew Antennas, a communications company, said he had written a thesis on acoustics. He had installed double glazing at his flat in Ramsay Garden, overlooking Edinburgh Castle esplanade, but the noise penetrated it.

"One way to avoid the noise is to go out. When they stamp their feet to the tunes it is impossible to talk even with the windows shut."

Mr Matthews was giving evidence at a hearing before Lord Stott, who has been asked by Miss Webster, a secretary aged 25, to grant an interdict banning the tattoo organisers from making preparations for and staging performances of the tattoo in such a manner as to creat a noise nuisance.



Miss Webster: Seeking court order

Snatched director tortured by gang

From Our Correspondent, Cambridge

Mr Patrick Miles, aged 48, a business man, was back with his family yesterday after being kidnapped, tortured and drugged by an armed gang.

Mr Miles, of Caxton End, Bourn, Cambridgeshire, a company director whose firm supplies equipment to hospitals, was snatched at shotgun point at 8 am on Tuesday, the police said.

His green Renault 20 car was forced into the side of the A45 into Cambridge by a white van containing three men. One made him lie in the back of the van at the point of the gun. He was driven off with another member of the gang following in the Renault.

The police said he was taken to an old barn smelling of grain and containing old office furniture. In there the gang demanded information about his business and threatened, punched and tortured him.

He finally woke up in the back of his own car which had been parked on the edge of the village of Newton.

Det Chief Supt Len Bradley, head of Cambridge CID, said: "The man was missing for 11 hours. Just why the gang wanted information about his business is still a mystery."

Payroll clerk 'sitting duck' for raiders

A clerk who was shot in the knee during a payroll robbery in north London was a sitting duck for robbers, a High Court judge said yesterday.

Mr Vinordrai Mehta's employers, Standard Telephones & Cables, should have taken precautions to protect him and other pay clerks from attack, Mr Justice Jupp said.

Instead they allowed Mr Mehta, aged 45, to cross a public road carrying pay packets worth a total of £1,800.

The judge found the firm guilty of megligence, which it had denied, and gave judgment for Mr Mehta, of Erskine Crescent, Ferry Lane, Tottenham, north London, who had sued the company claiming damages for his injuries.

The judge said that he would decide the amount to be awarded after completion of medical evidence today.

The robbery happened in April, 1977, at the firm's premises in Oakleigh Road, New Southgate.

RSPCA turns £1.5m loss into surplus

The RSPCA has achieved a surplus of £465,000 compared with a loss of £1.5m the year before, according to its annual report published yesterday.

There were reductions in staff and other economies, but "Income, which is derived largely from voluntary contributions, increased by 12.3 per cent.

"The upheavals and public disputes within the RSPCA, which have captured the attention of the news media in recent years, has shaken only the composure of the society", the society said.

Financial cuts had not reduced the number of animals treated, the society said. Last year, the society treated more than 174,129 animals at its hospitals, clinics and welfare centres and destroyed 163,087 animals, almost 20,000 fewer than in 1981. New homes were found for 51,457 dogs and 41,764 cats. More than 37,000 cases of cruelty were investigated.

Inquiry into consumers' lost cash

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Cash deposits lost by consumers when companies cease trading are to be investigated by Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading.

Sir Gordon said yesterday: "I am seriously concerned that many people are losing money, sometimes large sums, consisting of several years' savings, when businesses to which they have made advance payments cease trading."

How big the problem is has not been fully quantified but the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) has received a barrage of complaints, last year amounting to about 24,000.

Ways of tackling the problem will be reviewed. Among existing protection schemes are those covering some mail order advertising in newspapers and periodicals.

As part of Sir Gordon's investigation these mail order protection schemes, operated by five newspaper and periodical publishers' trade association since 1975, will be reviewed to see how effective they are.

Complaints to the OFT show how consumers have been upset to discover that a company to which they have paid money has gone out of business before delivery has been made, leaving little or no prospect of getting back their money.

Customers making prepayments become ordinary unsecured creditors in a failed company, putting them at the back of the queue even if a receiver rescues any money for distribution among creditors.

The concern of such consumers is heightened when the failed trader sets up in business again later and disclaims any liability for the old company's debts, the OFT points out.

The investigation will attempt to establish not only the extent of the prepayment losses but the trading sectors in which losses happen most frequently.

There are indications that sectors involved include home improvements, with builders' bankruptcies being common, and key purchases for the home such as furniture.

Some "cash with order" advertising is not covered by protection schemes, the OFT says. Nor do those schemes cover direct mail to the home, newspapers' and periodicals' classified advertising or advertising for mail order catalogues and brochures which request direct payment.

The Cork report proposals for changes in existing insolvency law, if implemented, could alleviate the position to some extent, the OFT says. The proposals would introduce an element of personal liability on company directors and make it more difficult for them to start fresh companies.

But Sir Gordon says he will consider other possible remedies. Those could include a ban on prepayments and compulsory insurance by traders to protect prepayments. Another possibility is trust accounts into which prepayments would have to go and which would survive intact for the benefit of the consumer after a business was wound up.

Evidence or comments to help the investigation should go by July 4 to the Office of Fair Trading, Consumer Affairs Division, Room 114, Field House, Breams Buildings, London EC4A 1PR.

The BR report

Parker blames strikes for railways' £174m loss

British Rail would have broken even last year but for strikes, Sir Peter Parker, chairman of BR, said yesterday in his last annual report.

"Without the strikes, we would have doubled last year's operating surplus and, after paying interest, broken even in spite of the slump. As it was, the strikes cost us £170m and the group result was a loss, after interest, of £147m.

Sir Peter, who is due to retire in the autumn, said 1982 would prove a turning point in modernizing the rail business. "It was a hard year for British Rail, unnecessarily hard on our customers, but BR has come out stronger than it went in."

The report shows that before interest, rail businesses lost £97.8m, offset by a £10.5m profit on non-rail businesses like Sealink and property.

Interest, partly offset by extraordinary items, boosted that £87.3m operating loss to £156.2m, which after transfers to reserves bacame a total loss of £173.6m.

But the costly strikes should not eclipse the favourable factors, Sir Peter said. There was "a momentum of change" which cut the railways' cost structure during 1982, with positive long-term benefits.

"We are still running the same size network, but since mid-1981 we have cut our costs by £250m. "We have fewer locomotives, fewer coaches, fewer wagons, fewer marshalling yards and fewer people – 27,000 off the payroll in two years. Railway working expenses were cut by £80m. in 1982. "And now we have a clear-cut strategy for change that should continue to improve our performance still further."

After two years of "relentless negotiations", Sir Peter said there was now agreement on fundamental changes like one-man operation of the new electric trains from London St Pancras, and flexible rosters.

For the first time, the annual report includes a section on



Sir Peter Parker: 'A hard year'

"the customer", which reports that "a concerted effort to improve customer service" began in 1982, including attention to the attitude of staff and improvements in information equipment.

Sir Peter commented: "As far as the individual customer is concerned. I remain convinced that the future of the railway is as much to do with the quality of our products and services as it is to do with finance and politics.

"Punctual, regular trains, sparkling clean, coming into stations welcomingly bright, manned by staff both well informed and informative – that is what matters, and for that we continue to strive, only too aware of the contrast between good and bad, new and old, in the system".

Management reorganization into market-orientated business sectors was "perhaps the biggest change since nationalization" and will transform public understanding of the railways, he said.

"We are a variety of sophisticated businesses, not an incredible bulk.

"Now, with the new scope for improvements that we have won in 1982, we can surely build a better railway on these strengths – and however demanding the objectives for the future railway, I am more confident than ever that BR can deliver.

Of the Serpell review on railway finances, Sir Peter called for clearer objectives from government, together with a new form of "contract" defining scale and quality of service. He also urged an immediate start on electrification.

The annual report said that operating surpluses before interest were recorded by freight (nearly £10m and parcels £8m).

BR's Sealink subsidiary turned in a £2.9m operating surplus before interest, an improvement of £3.6m over 1981, and a significant improvement in its financial performance is confidently expected this year.

"This anticipated upturn in the company's performance coincides with the board's plan to achieve the privatisation of Sealink as an entity in 1983," the report said.

BR engineering, with 12 workshops, "exceeded its 1982 financial targets", with a 3,550, nearly 11 per cent, cut in manpower combined with a further £14m saving in overheads and a £27m reduction in stock levels.

The transport board contributed a record £77.8m to British Rail's corporate finances, bringing its total contribution since 1970 to more than £500m.

Investment spending was £161m below the permitted ceiling for 1981, at £269m, because of cash limit constraints.

During 1982, 415 miles of track were renewed against a 610-mile programme. The rail strike cost an estimated £150m in passenger revenue, although receipts at £933m were down less than 10 per cent in 1981. Passenger miles at 17bn were down 11 per cent.

British Railways Board Annual Report and Accounts (Stationery Office: £3.50).

Foundling: A young Pudu, a type of South American deer, on public view at London Zoo yesterday after being discovered by keepers, two days after its berth, hidden in the grass of its paddock. Named Chiquita, it is about 8in high and will grow no bigger than 16in. London Zoo has six Pudu, four of them born there. The smallest species of deer, Pudu are found in forest country in western South America, especially in Chile. Their numbers are not known, but they are believed to be declining through hunting and loss of habitat. There are only about 40 in captivity. (Photograph: John Voos.)

Archaeology institute launched

By Norman Hammond
Archaeology Correspondent

A group of British archaeologists has announced the establishment of an Institute of Field Archaeologists to represent and advance the views of the profession.

The institute, supported in its foundation by other archaeological organizations, numbers some of the country's best known field workers among its officers and council and has declared that the entry requirements will be stringent.

Mr Tim Tatton-Brown, the institute's publicity officer, who is also director of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust, said: "Archaeology in Britain has at last come of age. For many years there has been a great need for a professional body in archaeology."

The idea of a professional institute was first advocated in *The Times* in 1974 and was studied by a working party set up by the Council for British Archaeology.

The council is among the sponsors of the institute, which also include the world's senior archaeological body, the Society of Antiquaries of London.

Mr Peter Addyman, director of the York Archaeological Trust, is the first chairman of the institute, with Dr Peter Fowler, of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, Mr Philip Barker of Birmingham University, and Professor John Coles of Cambridge University, as vice-chairmen.

MPs suggest big cut in nationality fees

By Nicholas Timmins

Big reductions in the British nationality fees, with applicants receiving British nationality free, have been recommended by the Commons home affairs committee.

It says that miscalculations mean that in 1982-83 the Home Office will make a £6m profit from the fees, five times the figure it predicted.

Applicants are paying more than double the cost for processing their applications, the committee says, and those who are successful are paying the cost of unsuccessful applications, a provision described as unfair.

When the Home Office introduced the fees in April 1982 (£200 for naturalization, £75 for registration and £35 for minors) it took no account of the British Nationality Act which came into force on January 1 this year, the committee says. That produced the "totally predictable effect" of a rise in applications from the 41,000 predicted by the Home Office to 95,800.

The committee recommends that most inquiries about applicants should be carried out by Home Office civil servants, not by the police. That would save money, reduce delays and release several thousand working days of police time.

The fees should be calculated by dividing the costs for the coming year by the number of applicants from the previous year. That would cut the £200 naturalization fee to £80, the registration fee to £33.61.

The committee recommends, however, that the £6m profit should be taken into account to make registration free for individuals entitled to British citizenship, and that only one fee should be charged for a family, instead of a fee for each member. In addition, those receiving supplementary benefit or family income supplement should not be charged.

Charging those who would suffer financial hardship would be a restriction on the rights of poorer people to apply for citizenship, the committee says.

In a separate report the committee has recommended that questions on ethnic or racial origin should be included in future censuses.

There is intense controversy among ethnic minority groups about whether such questions should be included, partly because of fears that the information could be used by future governments for repatriation programmes. The committee says, however, that such data is vital to identify racial discrimination and hardship.

Strict safeguards on the confidentiality of the data already exist, the committee says. Names and addresses are not computerized. However, all census forms should be destroyed after use instead of being stored, as at present, for release after 100 years.

Second Report of the Home Affairs Committee: *Ethnic and Racial Questions in the Census* (Stationery Office £5.10). Third Report *British Nationality Fees* (published May 19).

PARLIAMENT May 11 1983

Government confident of 1983 EEC rebate

EEC BUDGET

The Government was confident it would achieve a settlement to the problem of Britain's 1983 contribution to the EEC budget that would be satisfactory to the Commons and the British people, **Mr Francis Pym**, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during question time.

He could not say whether agreement would be achieved at the European Council meeting in Stuttgart on June 6 and 7, but this was what the Government wished to see and what its European partners said they wished to see.

Mr Joan Evans (Aberdare, Lab) for the Opposition: As we come to the June election, although the budget contribution is to be discussed at Stuttgart on June 6 and 7, there will be no agreement of a permanent solution. Will he confirm that since we entered the Market it has cost us £6,000m, and, as a nation, £1m for every day?

Mr Pym: Nobody doubts that there will be anything like agreement on a long-term solution at Stuttgart. Everybody realizes it is going to take a number of months. Progress has already been made. The debate has only just started; it has scarcely begun. Everyone recognizes it will take some time.

That is why it is necessary for there to be some separate arrangement for the United Kingdom budget for 1983. Discussions will begin informally at the Foreign Ministers' meeting on May 14 and 15 and will continue at the Foreign Affairs Council on May 24.

Mr Robert Maclennan (Caithness and Sutherland, SDP): The Government's failure to secure a settlement on the agricultural budget is costing the British farmers dearly. When does he expect to get this agricultural settlement fixed?

Mr Pym: When everybody agrees. The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Mr Peter Walker) has been doing doughty battle in the interests of Britain. If it had not been for him, we would have an even more expensive settlement. I am confident we will get agreement.

Mr Robin Squire (Havering Hornchurch, C): Will he undertake to make clear the massive distinction berween the performance of the Labour Party and the Government on the EEC budget? Unlike the Labour Party, the Conservative Party has worked within Europe to get agreements and not run away from our responsibilities.

Mr Pym: He makes a fair distinction between the two sides and their approach to this difficult problem. If it had not been for Lord Carrington and the Prime Minister I do not think we would have been able to negotiate the refund of £2,000m over the lifetime of this Government so far. That is much better than we would have had under a Labour Government or what we inherited from our predecessors.

Mr Eric Heffer, chief Opposition spokesman on European and Community affais (Liverpool, Walton), Lab: On every occasion the Labour Government attempted to get a better deal it was attacked by the front bench of the Conservative Party for being too aggressive and undermining Britain's position inside the EEC.

The difference in the situation under this Government is that on any occasion it has tried to make some progress it has received the full support of the Opposition.

The Prime Minister said that she would get an agreement by June. It is clear there is not to be an agreement by June. Is it not a good idea for the Prime Minister not to bother to go to Stuttgart but to wait until after the general election and we have won it and begun the process of getting out?

Mr Pym: During the last Parliament we accused the then Government, including him, of getting nowhere and they did not get anywhere. We have achieved a refund which is obviously extremely helpful to this country.

Mr Timothy Renton (Mid Sussex, C): Can he not count on the maximum support from Chancellor Kohl and other European leaders at the Stuttgart summit for himself and the Prime Minister? If the Labour Party were to win the election two days later – heaven forfend – and Mr Heffer were to find himself in his shoes, this would lead to Britain's withdrawal from the Community, the break-up of the 10 and Britain becoming the most despised country in Europe.

Pym: Long-term solution will take time

Mr Pym: Nobody knows whether the Labour Party – if it was ever to get the chance, and I am confident it will not – would carry out its undertaking to withdrew, or how it would cope with the loss of jobs and all the other consequences.

Mr James Callaghan (Middleton and Prestwich, Lab) for the Opposition: If there is no agreement on the cash rebate level to be repaid from the massive sums we have put in, will the Prime Minister risk a legal and constitutional confrontation by withholding contributions or will she continue to thump the table?

Mr Pym: We are confident that with out partners, we shall reach an agreement which will make that unnecessary.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C): Will the Foreign Secretary confirm that that it is more than likely that on June 6 we shall receive a rebate of more than £500m which will bring the total brought back to this country by this Government to £2,500m?

The enlargement of the Community to include Portugal and, ultimately, Spain, will place a great strain on the finances of the Community and could give further problems for this country unless a proper budget is achieved in the near future.

Mr Pym: The payment resulting from an agreement would be some time later. He is right on the second point and that is one reason to inspire the Community to seek a fundamental change of financing.

Benn says poll could break expenses rule

GENERAL ELECTION

Newspapers which commissioned a telephone poll among voters in Bristol, East, might be by-passing the rules of the House and issues of corruption might arise, **Mr Tony Benn** (Bristol, South-East, Lab) said, when he raised a point of order on the subject.

Mr Benn said: A constituent of mine was telephoned last night by a representative of an organization called Audience Selection who announced that they were polling 2,000 people in the new Bristol East constituency. Eight questions were put, five of them referred to me and none to other candidates, and this poll had been commissioned by a consortium of newspapers.

Today I telephoned the company and they confirmed that a poll of this character was being undertaken. I also caused a few inquiries to be made indirectly of the same company to get an estimate of the cost of polling 2,000 people by telephone from London, and the estimate given was £6,000.

This raises issues of concern to the whole House which has retained its control over election law and corrupt practice. In pages 22 and 23 of *Erskine May* it is clear that the House transferred the problem of adjudication of corrupt practice to an election court, but a judge will make a report to the House for action under the privileges of the House itself.

Is it proper for telephone canvassing to be undertaken with no limitation on expenditure?

Is it proper for costs, in this case twice as great as the legal limits for any candidate – because I estimate the legal limits for Bristol East are £2,775 for myself and other candidates – if political canvassing be undertaken in the guise of polling?

Are newspapers exempt from election law if they call it polling?

Does this constitute a corrupt practice? The House had been precise and clear in protecting the democratic process by laying down in law under the Representation of the People Act what the legal limits of expenditure ought to be.

If it is the case, as is now I believe clear, that the newspapers that commissioned the poll and Audience Selection that has undertaken it, are by-passing the rules that the House has imposed, I believe that issues of corruption might arise.

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas): The House will not expect me to rule on the matters that he has raised. I doubt whether I will have any standing in the matter, but I will write to him in the time that is left to us before I depart myself.

Mortgage relief limit stays at £25,000

FINANCE BILL

An Opposition amendment to the Finance Bill to keep the upper limit for tax relief on mortgage interest to £25,000 was agreed to during the Bill's committee stage in the Commons.

The Government had proposed that the limit should be raised to £30,000.

Mr Robert Sheldon, and Opposition spokesman on Treasury affairs, moving the amendment, said the reason the Government had decided to put the limit up was because it was election year.

The average loan to a first time buyer was £14,500 and to other buyers it was £15,000 so a limit of £25,000 would still be high enough not to affect the vast majority of house buyers.

The Opposition wanted to help people own their homes, favoured mortgage relief and favoured helping young people to buy their own homes.

Mr Leon Britten, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said the House would be familiar with the circumstances in which this amendment had been put down and in which he would reluctantly have to advise the Government not to oppose it. It was simply and solely in order to get the Bill through.

This amendment was designed to maintain the mortgage interest relief limit for 1983-84 at £25,000, the level at which it had been since 1974. That was the sort of price the country was being asked to pay, but the fact was that the change could have practical effect before August.

It was the policy of the Government on reelection to introduce a further Finance Bill immediately which would set the limit for 1983-84 at the £30,000



Costain: High price to get Bill through

proposed in the budget. Nobody, on the return of a Conservative Government, would suffer in any way fromthe mean-mindedness of the Opposition in putting forward this amendment.

Mr John Ward (Poole, C) said the Opposition message on the eve of the election to all home owners or would-be home owners was: "Do not in any circumstances do anything to bring back a Labour government." The amendment amounted to vindictiveness directed against people who dared to want to own their homes and dared expect some form of assistance for the first-time home buyer.

Whatever illusions the Opposition might have, the Government's measure was designed to help the first-time home buyer and to help the construction industry provide more first homes for people. The amendment would be seen by those people as a direct attack on them.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab) said there was no sillier accusation than the suggestion that the Opposition was against home ownership and also having the opportunity of being able to rent accommodation.

It was a Labour government that introduced the option mortgage scheme which gave many people, who in different circumstances would not have been able to get a mortgage the chance to do so.

A different type of housing policy was needed to give assistance to those who needed it most and a Labour government would give them genuine assistance. The first priority must be to help those desperate for accommodation and went day after day to the local authority offices for housing or rehousing and were told, in effect, there was no hope.

Sir Albert Costain (Folkestone and Hythe, C) said during his time in the House he had often thought how nice it would be to get Finance Bills through without sitting long hours. But if what they had seen today was the price they had to pay to get the Bill through quickly it was a very high price indeed.

If this amendment was not going to be rescinded in August when the present Government got back into office it would have a very serious effect.

Mr Edward Graham (Enfield, Edmonton, Lab) said it was a charade and a sham by the Conservatives to pretend that what they were seeking to do was protect the interests of the owner-occupier.

The reason the construction industry needed a boost was the destruction wrought by the present Government which had deliberately sought to dampen expansion.

Mr John Loveridge (Havering, Upminster, C) said they should keep mortgage relief above the average threshold for the United Kingdom. Prices were much higher in the south-east and Labour policy was designed to make a difference, so that one part of the country would find it harder to get the necessary tax relief than the other.

There might be a case for helping the north – he believed there was – but not by this differentiation.

There should be certainty for young people saving to buy their first home. After the election the Government should restore this measure.

The committee stage was concluded and the Bill passed its remaining stages.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Proceedings on the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill. Motions on Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order and on Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1978 (Continuance) Order. **Lords (3):** National Heritage Bill and Mobile Homes Bill, Commons amendments. Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill, report and remaining stages. Copyright (Amendment) Bill, second reading and remaining stages. Prohibition of Female Circumcision Bill, report and remaining stages. Importation of Milk Bill, Education (Fees and Awards) Bill, and Local Authorities (Expenditure Powers Bill) all stages.

Only the Kremlin is heard

DISARMAMENT

If in one way or another the Soviet people could be rached, **Mr Francis Pym**, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, told the Commons he felt certain they would take the same view as the rest of them about nuclear weapons and disarmament generally. Unfortunatley, they were not in a position to receive any messages, except those they were permitted to receive by the Kremlin.

That is one of the greatest weaknesses (he went on). If we could get through to the people in a democratic way I am certain we would have arms reduction.

He was replying to **Mr Dale Campbell-Savours** (Workington, Lab) who asked why should the reaction of the Soviet Union and Soviet people to the deployment of cruise missiles in western Europe be any different from the reaction of the American people and American government to the possible deployment of nuclear missiles on sites in Central America.

Mr Frank Allaun (Salford, East, Lab) asked what response the Government would make in the disarmament negotiations to the Soviet statement that the USSR would not use nuclear weapons against states which would not themselves make or harbour them.

Mr Pymm: A soviet statement to this effect was first made in 1978. It clearly implied a nuclear threat to the alliance. The United Kingdom itself gave an assurance in the same year that we would not use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states who are parties to the non-proliferation treaty of a similar international agreement except if they attack us, our forces, our dependent territories or our allies in association or alliance with a nuclear weapon state.

It would be welcome if the Soviet Union would give a similar assurance in the current discussions on this issue in the Committee on Disarmament.

Mr Allaun: Would the Foreign Secretary ask Nato to make a reciprocal offer to eastern European countries and thus create a European non-nuclear zone?

Mr Pym: I would remind him of the clear declaration made by Nato and reconfirmed as recently as last summer that the allies would not use any weapons, nuclear or conventional, unless attacked. That is the most forthcoming statement of its kind that has been made.

Mr Winston Churchill (Stretford, C): It would be the height of naivety to entrust the security and the lives of the British people not to the Nato alliance and the independent deterrents which have provided us with 38 years of peace with freedom, but instead to the good will and sense of honour of the men who from time to time may hold sway in the Kremlin, as the Labour Party now proposes to do by their determination not only to end our independent deterrent but to cripple the United States ability to defend western Europe by getting rid of nuclear bases from this country.

Mr Pym: I am sure he is right.

Mr John Ward (Pole, C): The fact that the Afghans did not harbour nuclear weapons has done nothing to stop the systematic slaughter by conventional weapons.

Mr Pym: The fact is that however horrendous nuclear weapns are – and they are – they have nonetheless come into existence and have not caused any deaths since the Second World War. On the other hand, conventional weapons have caused millions of casualties including in Afghanistan which was a brutal and totally unjustified invasion and in order to keep the Afghans in their place 105,000 Soviet trops are required. It is a disgraceful episode in history.

Mr Clinton Davis, an Opposition spokesman on Foreign and Comonwealth affairs (Hackney, Central, Lab): Does he recognize that the Government's stance might be a little more persuasive if the Prime Minister did not so consistently resort to the language of the cold war? If it does not believe that our nuclear armaments system should be counted within the the INF talks, what objection is there for Britain making a contribution instead to the Start talks over our own system?

Mr Pym: Our deterrent is considered – and by the Russians – as a strategic weapon. It is a minute part of the nuclear armoury of the super powers. It is the minimum force that can exist and still be a credible and effective deterrent and therefore it cannot form part of the IMF talks. But if there is a substantial change in the strategic situation and a willingness on the Russian side to reduce arms, and it happens, we have indicated we would be prepared of course to reconsider our position.

Dissident's sister sees minister

The Soviet human rights record has deteriorated sharply in recent months, **Mr Malcolm Rifkind**, Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in answering questions about his recent visit to Moscow.

Mr Timothy Sainsbury (Hove, C) asked whether religious and cultural freedom in the USSR was discussed and **Mr Rifkind**, said that during his recent talks in Moscow he reiterated British concern at the Soviet human rights performance and raised a number of individual cases.

Mr Sainsbury: The continuing repression of religious and cultural freedom particularly of the Christian and Jewish communities in the Soviet Union is a major obstacle to any chance of improving relations between our two countries.



Anderson: Even-handed over human rights

Is not the Soviet failure to deliver a proper performance of the human rights aspect of the Helsinki agreement a cause for concern about their ability or intention to adhere to the rest of that agreement?

Mr Rifkind: He is correct. The Soviet human rights record has deteriorated sharply in recent months. Only this afternoon (Wednesday) I had a visit from the sister of a Soviet dissident who has been sentenced to eight years imprisonment and internal exile for activities which in any normal country would not be considered illegal or unacceptable.

Mr Donald Anderson (Swansea, East, Lab): We welcome his taking up these issues in the Soviet Union which does itself no good by its continued repression of Christians, Jews and other dissidents.

If our reprsentations are to have more effect we should be seen in the world to be even-handed in criticizing violations of human rights all over the world: in central America, Chile and other areas and not just behind the iron curtain.

Mr Rifkind: This Government, like previous British governments, is equally concerned aout human rights violations wherever theu occur.

Sir Anthony Kershaw (Stroud, C): Was he able to explain to the Russians that the excuse that communism can make no concession without itself falling apart is not sufficient for the West to be able to devote ay credence to their signature on any treaty?

Mr Rifkind: His remark is a continuing indication of the basic insecurity felt by Soviet leaders well aware of the unacceptability of their system and creed to the vast majority of the people who have the misfortune to live under it.

Reagan aims backed by Government

The British Government strongly supported the objectives being pursued by President Reagan in Central America which were to achieve democratic reform, human freedom, human rights and continued help with economic development, **Mr Francis Pym**, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during Commons question time.

Earlier he told **Mr Dennis Canavan:** I shall have an opportunity to meet members of the American administration on a number of occasions in the next few months. The topics to be discussed will naturally depend on the forum and the circumstances at the time, but I expect they will include East/West relations, arms control, the Middle East, the world economy and matters affecting our bilateral trade.

Mr Canavan (West Stirlingshire, Lab): Will he tell President Reagan a growing number of British people and indeed people throughout the world, are opposed to the intervention of the United States Government in the affairs of Central American independent states, in particular the continued supply of arms to the government of El Salvador and the CIA plot to try to invade and destabilize Nicaragua?

Mr Pym: I have discussed these matters with the US Secretary of State. The British Government supports the United States objectives in Central America.

Mr Donald Anderson, an Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs (Swansea, East, Lab): Why is the Prime Minister not attending the Williamsburg summit? Are we to have the only Western head of government not there? If she refuses to go, will the Foreign Secretary realise that we are ready to substitute?

Mr Pym: The Prime Minister will come to a conclusion about that in the near future.

Labour call for five year national plan

HOUSE OF LORDS

The vacillation shown by the Prime Minister over the general election timing had created uncertainty and was clearly due to the fear of what might lie at the end of the road in the autumn and early next year, **Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos**, leader of the Opposition said in the Lords.

Opening a debate on the need for new and urgent measures to stimulate industrial growth, he said that under the Tories a good many people were leaner but he was sure they were not fitter. Conservative propaganda had prophesied that they would be.

The situation was grim. Small businesses had suffered and bankruptcies had increased. Regional aid had been cut by 44 per cent. The Government had allowed things to go beyond the point of no return in some cases. Firms would never reopen.

One on seven of the labour force was out of work, the highest unemployment of any industrial country in Europe apart from Spain.

The moment has come (he said) for new men and new measures and a great effort to untie the nation and to bring hope where there is despair. We have had enough of this scorched earth policy from the Government.

He wanted a five year national plan, coordinating expansion and public spending, and a national planning council involving management and trades unions which the Government had alienated but whose cooperation was badly needed for recovery.

Lord Thorneycroft (C) said Britain was leaner and fitter as a nation. That was to be found anywhere in industry.

Labour intended to inflate the economy. It said openly that there would be a demand for higher wages. It was acknowledged, too, that there would be a surge in imports and that Labour would seek to tackle this with controls, tariffs and quotas. But that would be in direct contravention of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the trade regulations under which Britain's export trade was conducted. He viewed an inflated island economy, protected against the rest of the world, with honour.

Labour planned to leave the EEC. For that party to be the leaders into a retreat into a protectionist world was something he hoped the British people would give the gravest consideration to. Britain exported about one third of everything it made.

I beg the Labour Party (he said) to think before they tear up this system of trading. We would lose large parts of our export trade and many advantages of being in Europe. We would lose the benefits of the trading rules on non-discrimination without which I do not know how our exporters would be able to exist. We would lose most of the foreign investment coming in and a good slice of our invisible trade. We would lose jobs, too.

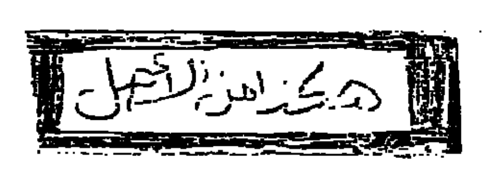
Lord Ezra (L), former chairman of the National Coal Board, said there was revival in a few sectors of industry but not in most, and in some enterprizes but not most. There were signs of revival in some parts of the country but not in most. This was apparently a delicate plant.

Viscount Trenchard (C), a former Minister of State for Defence Procurement and former Minister of State at the Depatment of Industry, said he spoke as "A yesterday Tory wet minister at the DOI". His remarks should be entitled not so much "the confessions of a wet" but "the conversion of a wet".

We have (he said) transformed in a few years our uncompetitiveness in a way I did not believe was possible. We can have real steady growth. Our costs have gone down substantially less than those of other manufacturing countries as a whole in the last two years.

There is no reason why we should lose the increasing momentum. Above all else we must keep the present attitudes and wage moderation if we are to get our international competitors on the run. We can get them on the run for the first time for 30 years.

Nothing can now stop our international recovery except gross misunderstanding of our history of the last 25-30 years, and a return to the kind of medicine which lost us half our markets in less than two decades.



ELECTION JUNE 83 Why there are fewer marginals ● Bills that should survive ● Focus on Bristol East

How boundary changes have doubled the handicap for Labour

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The degree to which the Conservatives will benefit from changes in the electoral map is shown in detail in a guide to the new constituencies published today.

It shows that Labour has been twice handicapped by the boundary revisison. These have given the Conservatives 21 extra seats and taken nine from Labour, as already noted, but they have also reduced the number of potential gains for the challenger party by reducing the number of potential gains for the challenger party by reducing the number of margnal and highly marginal seats.

A uniform swing across the country from Conservative to Labour of 2.5 per cent would result in 30 seats being gained by Labour, rather than the 37 it would have gained on existing boundaries. A 5 per cent will yield only 69 instead of 74 gains.

The calculations are based on a comprehensive joint undertaking by a working party of political academics and broadcsters from the BBC and from Independent Television News.

They have surveyed the pattern of voting at local elections in every ward of the United Kingdom and have constructed a model, orignally devised by Mr Paul McKee of ITN, of how the present House of Commons would have been constituted if, in 1979 it had been elected on the new boundaries.

Tables show how each new constituency has been built up and each old one dispersed.

For the broadcasters the special value of the model is that it allocates each new seat to the party which would have been in possession and so they can, on election night, record the familiar flow of gains and losses.

It shows precisely the scale of the task ahead of Labour. As Professor Ivor Crewe, of Essex University, points out in its introduction, the Conservatives would in 1979 have had an overall majority of 71 on the new boundaries, instead of 44, and a majority over Labour of 101 instead of 71.

In 1979 the Conservatives led Labour by 7 per cent of the national vote. If on June 9 there is a national swing of 3.5 per cent from Conservative to Labour, so that Labour has an equal share of the vote, the Conservatives will still have 16 more votes – 316 to Labour's 300 – and, assuming no increase in the other parties' total share, Mrs Margaret Thatcher would be able to continue in office, although heading a minority administration.

Table 1 shows that for each 1 per cent swing an average of 13 seats would change hands between the Conservative and Labour parties.

Table 2 shows that Labour must gain 50 seats from the Conservatives, on a 4 per cent swing, to become the largest party, but that it needs a 6 per cent swing to secure an overall majority large enough to be sure of a full five-year term in government.

Table 3 shows equally vividly the height of the fence which the SDP/Liberal Alliance would have to clear to make its presence felt in the new Commons.

The BBC/ITN Guide to the New Parliamentary Constituencies: (Parliamentary Research Services, 18 Lincoln Green, Chichester, West Sussex: £25)

Table 1: How swings of votes will translate into seats

Lab to C %	C	Lab	Lib	SNP/PC	Overall majority	Maj over nextlargest party
7.0	455	167	5	5	C261	C288
6.0	445	177	5	5	C241	C268
5.0%	418	204	5	5	C187	C214
4.0	407	215	5	5	C165	C192
3.0	398	224	5	5	C147	C174
2.0	384	235	8	5	C119	C149
1.0	376	243	8	5	C103	C133
no swing	360	259	9	4	C 71	C101
C to Lab						
1.0	348	269	10	5	C47	C79
2.0	338	279	10	5	C27	C59
3.0	326	290	10	6	C 3	C36
4.0	307	309	10	6	no party	Lab 2
5.0	296	320	10	6	no party	Lab 24
6.0	278	335	13	6	Lab 21	Lab 57
7.0	269	344	13	6	Lab 39	Lab 75

Changes of party control in a seat since 1979 through a by-election or defection have been ignored.

Table 2: The hurdles Labour must clear

	Required turnover of seats	Required swing from C to Lab%	Required swing from C to 2nd party in seat%
C lose *secure overall majority* (ie under 25)	C lose 24 seats	2.2	2.2
C lose bare overall majority	C lose 36 seats	3.3	2.8
Lab become single largest party	Lab gain 50 seats from C	4.0	4.0
Lab obtain bare overall majority	Lab gain 66 seats	5.4	5.4
Lab obtain *secure* overall majority (ie over 25)	Lab gain 79 seats	6.1	6.1

Changes of party control in a seat since 1979 through a by-election or defection have been ignored.

Table 3: How an Alliance advance would hurt the Conservatives (assuming votes taken equally from Labour and Tories)

SDP/Lib % share of vote	C	Lab	Lib/SDP	Others	Overall Maj*	C maj. over Lab
	Election result (seats)					
18	355	258	13	24	C61	+97
20	353	258	14	25	C57	+95
22	350	257	21	26	C43	+89
24	346	257	21	26	C43	+89
26	339	256	29	26	C29	+83
28	334	256	34	26	C19	+78
30	322	256	46	26	none	+66
32	313	255	55	27	none	+58
34	295	251	77	27	none	+44
36	272	237	114	27	none	+35

* Includes the Speaker.

Insurance net for candidates

By Frances Gibb Legal Affairs Correspondent

Election candidates can protect themselves from legal actions under the Representation of the People Act, 1983, under a new kind of insurance policy launched today.

For £55 candidates can take out insurance against the costs of defending charges of illegal practices in their election expenses, which can lead to the loss of a seat and a ban on being elected for five years.

The policy, details of which are being sent to an estimated 2,500 prospective candidates, has been devised in the wake of the case of Mr Adrian Slade, a Liberal candidate in the local council elections in Richmond in 1981.

Because of an action mounted by his unsuccessful Conservative opponent, Mr Slade and his agent were faced with a legal bill of almost £50,000. Their offence was to have overspent their election budget by 66p and to have wrongly completed their return of election expenses.

In the end only one of the 15 charges, such as failing to return a charge for the purchase of 200 garden stakes and poster boards, stuck. But the court ordered Mr Slade to pay most of the Conservatives' costs as well as his own. he costs are still in dispute.

Mr Brian Raincock, managing director of Legal Benefits, which has launched the scheme, said: "Candidates and their agents, particularly in marginal seats, are extremely vulnerable to legal actions over what might be a tiny mistake. Yet the penalty for the individual is extremely heavy."

Under the policy, which is being recommended by Conservatives and the Social Democratic Party, candidates and their agents are covered for any one claim within two years for up to £50,000.



Mr Adrian Slade: Warning to others.

Bills expected to beat the deadline

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Legislation giving more security to residents in mobile homes, providing for some social security benefits increases to be calculated by reference to past rather than forecast movements in prices, and establishing a new commission for ancient monuments and historic buildings should survive the decision to call a general election on June 9.

Barring unforeseen difficulties the Mobile Homes Bill, National Heritage Bill, and the Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill will receive the Royal Assent before the dissolution tomorrow, with the tacit cooperation of the Opposition.

The Mobile Homes Bill establishes a duty on site owners to offer agreements to occupiers to enforce the duty and challenge the terms of the agreements offered.

The National Heritage Bill establishes boards of trustees of the Victoria & Albert Museum, the Science Museum, the Armouries and the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, London.

The other legislation which will be saved is The Dentists Bill, which increases the number of members elected by dentists to the General Dental Council; the Health and Social Services and Social Security Adjudications Bill; the Miscellaneous Financial Provisions Bill; the Education (Fees and Awards) Bill; the Local Authorities (Expenditure Powers) Bill; the County Courts (Penalty for Contempt) Bill; the Importation of Milk Bill; the Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill; the Copyright (Amendment) Bill; the Charities Bill; the Solvent Abuse (Scotland) Bill; the Local Authorities (Expenditure Powers) Bill; the Agricultural Holdings (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill; the Diseases of Fish bill; the Prohibition of Female Circumcision Bill; the Marriage Bill; the Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bill, and motions on the Northern Ireland Act, 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order and the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1978, (Continuance) Order.

Alliance row

A bitter split in the Liberal-SDP Alliance has emerged in Gloucester. Although the Alliance has decided nationally that an SDP man, Michael Golder, a travel firm executive, should oppose Mrs Sally Oppenheim, the Conservative, Gloucester Liberals want Mr David Halford, aged 39, their candidate in the past three general elections, to take his place.

Benn's tough task

Constituency profile: Bristol East

Mr Wedgwood Benn, having come through his first battle by securing a new constituency, at the second attempt, now faces an even tougher task – winning the marginal seat. He has conceded that it will require extremely hard work to gain a thirteenth parliamentary victory.

Mr Benn, aged 58 and a Bristol MP for 32 years, believes Bristol, East, ought to return a Labour MP in good times and bad, but if that was true a decade ago it may not be so now.

Profile of Bristol East

1981	% Own Occ	68
1981	% Loc Auth	25
1981	% Black/Asian	4
1981	% Mid cl	46
1981	% Prof man	12
1982	% electorate	66,876
1979	% BBC/ITN notional result:	Lab maj 4,300

Key: % Owner Occ: proportion owning their own homes; % Loc auth: proportion of council tenants; % Black/Asian: Propotion from New Commonwealth or Pakistan; % Mid cl: Proporion of non-manual workers; % Prof man: Professions, higher managers, and independent farmers: BBC/ITN notional result: Calculation of what result would have been in 19789 in new boundary constituencies by joint BBC/ITN study team.

One of his biggest difficulties could be the upward social mobility of the local population. About 66 per cent of the electorate are owner-occupiers and only 25 per cent are local authority tenants. Many of the Edwardian terraced houses have been bought by first-time buyers paying between £14,000 and £20,000, and whose political allegiances may well differ from those of their parents.

Mr Jonathan Sayeed, his Conservative opponent, who has never fought a parliamentary contest, believes party officials who say he is about to make a name for himself as the man who beat Mr Benn.

Few early signs appear to favour Mr. Benn whose constituency of Bristol, South East, disappears under boundary changes. He was rejected as Labour candidate for the much safer Bristol, South, and won selection for Bristol, East, only days after Labour lost overall control of the city council.

He arrived to find confident Conservatives and Liberals, who had built a small but flourishing nest in the heart of his new seat.

City council elections in wards in Bristol, East, gave the Conservatives 11,579 votes, Labour 11,131 and Liberals 6,143, a Tory majority of 448. Labour's hold on five wards was reduced to two and the Liberals took two "Labour" seats which Peter Tyrer, their parliamentary candidate, believes is a solid base for a strong vote.

Mr Sayeed, aged 35, a shipping and insurance consultant whose grandfather was Indian, previously contested two Greater London Council elections and lost, but he said he will win Bristol, East.

Mr Tyrer, aged 36, and Oxfam area organizer and member of CND, cut his teeth on Liberal politics in Liverpool. He said: "If the Alliance takes off we can do spectacularly well. It is the sort lof inner-city seat we can develop and win if we do not do it this time.

Craig Seton

Government battered in Transvaal by-elections as electorate shifts right

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

To the relief of the South African Government, Mr Fanie Botha, the Minister of Manpower and one of the most senior reformist figures in the Cabinet, managed to hang on to his Soutpansberg constituency in the north of Transvaal in Tuesday's by-election in a straight fight with Mr Tom Langley of the extreme right-wing Conservative Party. It was one of four crucial by-elections held on Tuesday, all in Transvaal.

The Conservative Party was formed only a little over a year ago, when Dr Andries Treurnicht, a former Cabinet minister and 16 other Government MPs were expelled from the ruling National Party.



Andries Treurnicht: A sweeping victory

Mr Botha had a narrow escape, winning by a majority of only 621 votes compared with the majority of 3,467 he had at the last general election in 1981 over two smaller right-wing groups. One of these has since merged with the Conservatives. The other, the Herstigre Nasionale Party (HNP), agreed not to field a candidate this time. The Nationalists' share of the vote slumped to 52.7 per cent from 63.4 per cent in 1981.

The far-right's biggest coup was Dr Treurnicht's sweeping victory in the Waterberg constituency, where the Conservatives garnered 46.9 per cent of the vote compared with the Nationalists' 31.4 per cent. The HNP, which is an earlier offshoot of the National Party and even more fanatically racist than the Conservatives, picked up the remainder.

In 1981 Dr Treurnicht helf Waterberg for the Government with 58.1 per cent of the votes cast. The dramatic slump in the Government's position clearly owes a good deal to the loyalty many voters felt to Dr Treurnicht personally. Had the Waterberg swing been repeated in Soutpansberg, Mr Botha would have lost.

The Government regained the affluent, upper middle-class Waterkloof constituency in Pretoria, which had been occupied by Mr Langley for the Conservatives until he resigned to fight Mr Botha in the Soutpansberg, fairly comfortably holding off a challenge from the Liberal Progressive Federal Party (PFP).

Both the Nationalists and the Progressives saw their share of the poll decline by just under 14 per cent, wht the Conservatives taking 19 per cent of the votes in this supposedly "liberal" Afrikaner constituency.

The fourth by-election was held in the gold-mining constituency of Carletonville to the south-west of Johannesburg to fill a vacant seat on the Transvaal Provincial Council. The turnout here was much lower than the 78 to 80 per cent recorded elsewhere. The National Party helf the seat with a reduced majority, but its 45.1 per cent share of the poll was exceeded by the 48.1 per cent cast for the Conservatives and HNP candidates combined.

The indifference to the elections of the country's 21 million black Africans was neatly summed up in a cartoon in the *Sowetan*, the main daily newspaper for blacks, which showed a black woman and her small granddaughter walking past election posters urging "Vote NP, Vote CP", and so on. The girl asks: "Granny what is a vote?" Otherwise the paper did not devote a single line to coverage of the elections.

The Government has been badly wounded, but not as grievously as it at one time feared, by the results of the four by-elections which show a continuing, strong, rightward shift in the country's all-white politics.

The by-elections are seen here as a mini-plescibite on the Government's controversial constitutional reforms, which had their first reading in the House of Assembly in Cape Town last week. The Government has promised to submit them to a full-scale white referendum before they are implemented.

The Government's aim is to set up a new, racially segregated, tri-cameral Parliament for the country's 4.6 million whites, 2.7 mixed-race Coloureds and 850,000 Indians, but to retain overall control in white hands through a complex veto mechanism and a powerful executive presidency that would replace the present Westminster-type constitutional model.

Although he put a bold face on the results, Mr P W Botha, the Prime Minister and leader of the National Party, acknowledged that the *Government's* once monolithic Afrikaner base was now deeply fissured. He promised to make an "in-depth study of the deep division of the voters" and to evaluate thoroughly the implications.

Throughout the election campaign, the constitutional reforms were denounced by far-right parties as heralding the end of undiluted white supremacy, while the liberal Progressive Federal Party, at present the main opposition, castigated them as cosmetic and fraudulent.

The main blow to the Government is the psychological one of suffering in Waterberg its first loss of a parliamentary seat to a party to its right since it came to power in 1948.



True art: French artist César (front) taking a hand in the destruction of 6,357 counterfeit Cartier watches in Paris. He intends to make a sculpture out of the smashed fakes.

Doubts in Israel

Peres pours scorn on Lebanon pact

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Mr Shimon Peres, leader of Israel's main opposition Labour Party, launched yesterday a scathing attack on the terms of the recently negotiated troop withdrawal agreement with Lebanon and called on the Begin Government to set a firm deadline for Syrian compliance with the scheme.

Speaking on a day when it was announced that five more Israeli soldiers were sentenced to up to 35 days' imprisonment for refusing to serve in Lebanon, Mr Peres suggested June 6, first anniversary of the war, as the deadline for Syrian acquiescence. If it was not forthcoming, he demanded that Israel should withdraw its men to "areas vital to its security".

Mr Peres was replying to Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, who sought Knesset approval for the pact. A final vote is to be taken on Monday. It became clear during the debate *that*, as well as Labour opposition, the Government will also face defections from the extreme right-wing Techiya Party.

Mr Shamir said the agreement negotiated by Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, would "be considered suspended" if there was not complete withdrawal of all Syrian and Palestinian forces from Lebanon, as well as the return of all Israeli prisoners and the bodies of those killed in action.

He explained that suspension would give Israel freedom to "act as it sees fit and according to its interests". This was taken to imply a unilateral withdrawal to a new defence line, some 27 miles north of the Israeli border and the effective partition of Lebanon.

Diplomatic observers noted that the efforts of the Israeli Government to "sell" the agreement domestically made it even less likely it would prove acceptable to Damascus.

Mr Perez's attack was seen in the press gallery as proof that *the Labour hierarchy* regards the war and its unhappy aftermath as the central issue in the next Israeli election. The Labour leader said that even ministers in the Cabinet were now saying that, if they had foreseen the outcome, they would not have supported the war.

He added that even Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Defence Minister and chief architect of the conflict, had said that the draft agreement would not suffice to guarantee the security of Israel's northern border.

Mr Peres claimed that the security arrangements planned for south Lebanon were worse than those in "force before "Operation Peace in Galilee", of which after 335 days there was no end in sight.

Israeli scepticism about the agreement with Lebanon has not been restricted to politicians. There have been a number of attacks in the press, including a biting satirical article in the leading newspaper *Haaretz*.

Stern to hand over fake diaries

Bonn (Reuter) – *Stern*, the West German magazine, said yesterday that it would hand over the fake Hitler diaries to a Hamburg public prosecutor this week.

Herr Günter Wittke, the public prosecutor said that the authorities were investigating the man calling himself either Konrad Fischer of Konrad Kujau, who was named as the supplier of the diaries by Herr Gerd Heidemann, the *Stern* journalist. Herr Heidemann has been dismissed and faces a fraud suit from his former employers.

Herr Fischer/Kujau has disappeared. A Stuttgart prosecutor went to his barricaded corner shop, called Militaria, yesterday but he said he had no search of arrest warrant.

Nun refuses to obey Vatican

Lansing, Michigan (AP) – The nun who heads Michigan's welfare department has decided to stay in her job, despite Vatican pressure on her to resign because the department pays for abortions.

Sister Agnes Mary Mansour said she had instead requested "with deep regret" a dispensation from her vows as a Sister of Mercy.

Topless protest at 'Macbeth'

Memphis, Tennessee (AP) – About 20 men and women stripped to the waist and sat quietly during a nude scene in the Metropolitan Opera's production of *Macbeth* in a protest over an ordinance banning topless dancing.

One of the protesters said he organized the demonstration when he learnt that one of the witches in *Macbeth* would dance nude but not be arrested. None of the protesters was arrested.

L-driver dies

Lohr, West Germany (AP) – A 17-year-old girl, who had just passed her driving test, died in a head-on crash that also killed three of her friends and seriously injured two other people. She was not due to receive her licence until her eighteenth birthday.

Café blaze

Paris (AP) – Fire investigators are attempting to find the cause of a blaze that forced the evacuation of 300 diners at the Café de la Paix. There were no injuries but the restaurant *will* be closed for some days.

Mussolini link

Como (AP) – Davide Barbieri, the resistance fighter who foiled Mussolini's attempted escape from Italy in 1945, has died here, aged 86. Barbieri and his men blocked a road, forcing the German convoy escorting Mussolini to stop and leading to the dictator's arrest.

£780m olive-branch to Britain

From Ian Murray, Brussels

New job-creating policies for the European Community would be given an extra £780m, according to the preliminary draft budget for 1984 put forward yesterday by the Commission. But spending that extra amount of money, mainly to try to satisfy British demands, would all but bankrupt the EEC.

The budget is very careful to ignore any mention of Britain, though it is blatantly obvious that meeting British grievances has been a big factor in drawing up the figures.

In an explanatory note to the budget, the Commission says that "supplementary measures are no longer an appropriate way of dealing with the problem. Rather there needs to be a special reinforcement of Community policies of particular interest to the United Kingdom."

This has meant substantial increases are proposed for so-called "new policies", which *would largely be administered* through the social and regional funds.

The Commission would expect that the bulk of this extra money would go to Britain, disguised as a Community policy covering a particular project designated by the Council of Ministers.

This is a device to placate the European Parliament, which last year threw out a supplementary budget for a British rebate on the ground that this was not money spent on the Community.

It means the Council of Ministers has now been passed the buck and must decide how much money Britain should receive for 1983, and the Council is notoriously slow to agree on this kind of package.

Mrs Thatcher has made it clear she expects a figure to be agreed by the time the European *summit is held in Stuttgart* on June 6, so that the Commission can write it into its draft budget in July.

How much of the extra £780m for new policies Britain would receive is bound to be the subject of intense argument. France may be expected to soften its traditionally hard opposition, as it is asking the Community for a £2,400m loan and will therefore be seeking to win support.

Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the Budget Commissioner, said yesterday that Britain would have to accept the need for an increase in the permitted size of the EEC budget, if it was ever to see a fairer balance between its payments to, and receipts from, the Community.

Diplomatic coup for Samantha

From Christopher Thomas
New York

Mr Yuri Andropov has obviously been brushing up on the art of international public relations. The Soviet leader, who wrote a delightful letter on the nuclear arms race to a little girl in the small town of Augusta, Maine, has followed it with an invitation to her to visit the Soviet Union this summer.

Samantha Smith, aged 10, has become a national figure since receiving the letter in reply to one she wrote expressing concern about the arms race.

She has conducted herself magnificently on nationwide television programmes and in newspaper interviews.

She went recently to the State House in Augusta to meet Governor Joseph Brennan and to speak to the House and the Senate.

She said yesterday that she was looking forward to the trip. "I hope to meet Mr Andropov," she added. "I plan to go with my parents."

Mr Gerard Conley, president of the state Senate, said Samantha had accomplished one of the greatest diplomatic coups in recent history. "She established communications between the United States and the Soviet Union based on honesty and trust."

Nkomo daughter takes drugs overdose

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

A daughter of Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwe opposition leader in exile in Britain, attempted suicide at the weekend by taking a drug overdose.

Mrs Johanna Nkomo, wife of Mr Nkomo and mother of Thandiwe, aged 27, said by telephone from Bulawayo that her daughter had tried to kill herself because she was distraught over the continuing detention without trial of her husband, Mr John Ndlovu.

For the past few weeks, Mrs Nkomo said, her daughter was "always crying, refusing to eat". Last Saturday, she added, Thandiwe was rushed to Bullawayo central hospital after a crying fit and the discovery in her bedroom of an empty bottle of sleeping tablets.

Mrs Nkomo said her daughter had not been allowed to see Mr Ndlovu in detention. The couple were married on January 7, amid lavish celebrations.

Since the suicide attempt, a government official had visited the Nkomo home in the suburb of Pelandaba, and said that, with immediate effect, Mrs Ndlovu would be allowed to visit her husband.

Mrs Nkomo said she had telephoned her husband in London with the news on Sunday, but denied reports that he has told her he would return to Zimbabwe immediately.

● LONDON; An aide confirmed last night that Mr Nkomo has been told of his daughter's illness, Henry Stanhope writes. Speaking from the flat off the Edgware Road where the Zapu leader has been livng for the last four weeks, he added that he knew nothing of any plans for Mr Nkomo's imminent return.

Lusaka court told of beatings in death cells

Lusaka (AFP) – Six men condemned to death for treason have told a Zambian court that they are being beaten, denied timely medical care and fed badly by warders

The six attended on Tuesday a hearing of their petition for relief before the Lusaka High Court.

The men include three Zambians: Mr Edward Shamwana, former High Court Commissioner, Mr Valentine Musakanya, former governor of the central Bank and Mr Goodwin Mumba, former manager of a finance company, and three Zaireans.

They, as well as a fourth Zairean, were sentenced to hang in January after a trial lasting nearly two years in which the prosecution said they were involved in a plot to overthrow President Kaunda in 1980.

Muldoon backs monetary reform

By Richard Dowden

At a lunch with Mrs Margaret Thatcher at 10 Downing Street yesterday Mr Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister, explained in detail proposals for a new "Bretton Woods" conference to reform the international monetary system. He said he hoped the matter would be raised at the Williamsburg summit due to take place in the United States shortly.

The three most important countries in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development – the United States, Britain and West Germany – remained unconvinced of the need for such a meeting. He said Mr Yasuhire Nakasone, Prime Minister of Japan, had written to him to say that while he had certain reservations about the scheme he hoped to raise it at the Williamsburg summit.

At a press conference in London yesterday, Mr Muldoon criticized press coverage of the recent tour of New Zealand by the Prince and Princess of Wales, in particular a report in *The Sun* and *The Times* which claimed he was using the royal tour for his own political purposes.

He called one journalist who had accused him of trying to steal the limelight a "ratbag" and said he had made up the story.

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Labour Party official had link with KGB man, Hawke says

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, last night named Mr David Combe, the former National Secretary of the Australian Labour Pary, as having links with Mr Valeriy Ivanov, a First Secretary at the Soviet Embassy in Canberra, who was expelled from Australia on April 22 as an agent of the KGB, the Soviet intelligence service. The revelation has shaken the new Labour Government.

The Prime Minister said that the deliberate cultivation by Mr Ivanov of the relationship with Mr Combe, now a lobbyist in Canberra, and the stage that it had reached on Labour's assuption to office was one of the reasons, but not the only one, which led to the Government's decision to expet Mr Ivanov.

Mr Combe spent much of yesterday afternoon with Mr Gareth Evans, the Federal Attorney-General, and officers of the Australian Security Intelligence Organization (ASIO), including the Director-General. In those discussions Mr Combe gave details of his professional activities as a lobbyist and his past relationships with the Soviet Union and the Soviet Embassy.

Earlier, it had been revealed that Mr Hawke had banned Labour ministers from having any contact with Mr Combe in his capacity as a lobbyist. Mr Combe was National Secretary of the Labour Party for eight years until his retirement in 1981, since when he has become one of Canberra's best-known lobbyists.



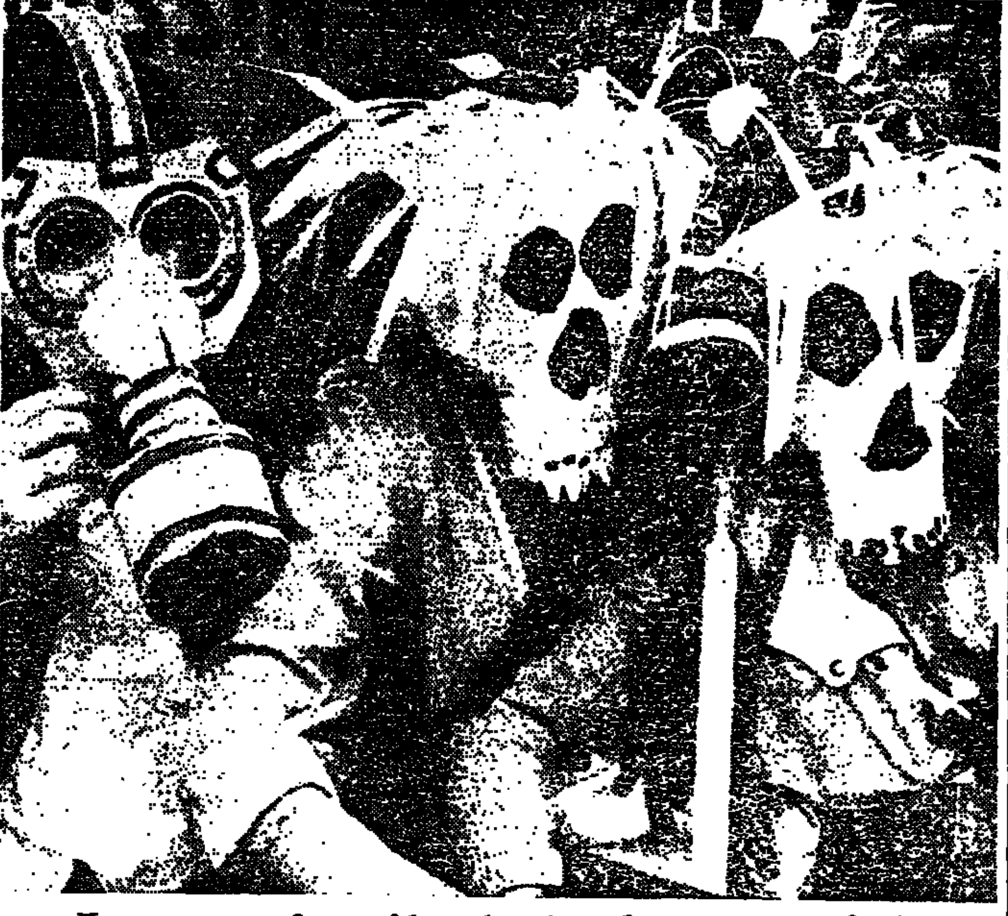
Mr Valeriy Ivanov: Expelled from Australia last month.

Demands for Mr Combe's services have increased sharply since the election of the Labour Government in March. He is one of the few lobbyists in Canberra with an intimate knowledge of how the Labour Government works and the personalities involved.

Mr Hawke said last night that the Government believed Mr Combe had committed no criminal offence and that there was no founation for any allegations that he was a Soviet spy. The statement in Parliament came after demands from the opposition that the Government name the senior Labour Party person alleged to have had links with Mr Ivanov.

The Federal Cabinet was first told on April 26 in Adelaide, and the full ministry on May 2, that it was not appropriate for them to continue associating with Mr Combe as a lobbyist. The reason given then was that while ministers should be accessible it was not appropriate that a former party official, such as Mr Combe, should have any special advantages as a result of his previous status.

The decision was made then, and endorsed without question by both the Cabinet and the ministry, that Mr Combe should not have lobby relations with any ministers. Yesterday Mr Hawke made it clear that there was another consideration underlying that recommendation that was not raised at the two meetings but was discussed by the Cabinet subcommittee on national and international security. The subcommittee had considered the association between Mr Combe and Mr Ivanov.



Lawyers' strike halts Seveso trial

Monza (AP) – A strike by lawyers here forced the postponement yesterday of the trial of five chemical company executives involved in Italy's worst environmental accident. Judge Cesare Di Nunzio announced the postponement and set text session for June 17. The five are charged with criminal negligence for the incident that sprayed highly toxic dioxin over the town of Seveso, near Milan, in 1976.

About 100 people wearing gas masks and white overalls (shown above) marched outside the courthouse carrying mock drums of dioxin. It was one of a series of recent protests in Europe by environmental groups demanding to know the whereabouts of dioxin wastes shipped from the plant.

The lawyers called the strike to press the Government to provide more court staff to speed up proceedings.

The defendants – two Swiss, two West Germans and an Italian – were absent at the opening session on April 18 and did not show up in court yesterday either.

Zia testing chances for Afghan peace

From Hasan Akhtar
Islamabad

Mr Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Pakistan's Foreign Minister, leaves here on Sunday for Peking to begin his rounds of talks with the governments of the five permanent members of the Security Council on the indirect negotiations between Islamabad and Kabul on Afghanistan under United Nations auspices.

It was announced here that the minister would be visiting Peking on Sunday and Monday and then go on to London, Paris, Washington and Moscow in the next few weeks. He will visit Saudi Arabia as well as meet Señor Pérez de Cuéllar, United Nations Secretary-General, in New York.

The announcement said that Mr Yoqub Khan's visits would be in connexion with the Geneva talks on Afghanistan, the next round of which is due to begin on June 16.

General Zia ul-Haq, Pakistan's military ruler, has stated that he believed that involvement of the governments of the permanent members of the Security Council would be necessary for a lasting solution of the Afghan issue.

Although General Zia said recently that unduly high hopes of an early settlement should not be attached to the current Geneva talks, diplomatic and political circles here regard the Foreign Minister's tour as crucial to the coming session.

Workers seize university in Accra

ACCRA (AFP) – Members of the Accra-Tema Workers' Defence Committee have occupied Ghana University and intend turning its halls and residences into flats for the next three years.

The workers ejected students from the campus at Legon, on the captal's suburbs. They said "students who really want to study might have sober reflection on national issues" during the proposed three-year occupation.

The workers moved in after violent undergraduate demonstrations in the streets of the capital last Friday. They also raided the offices of the state-owned newspaper, *The People's Daily Graphic* and *Ghanaian Times*. Many students were injured.

Apparently there were more serious clashes last week at the Science and Technology University at Kumasi to the north and at Cape Coast University east of here.

The severity of the latest budget proposals – many consumer goods have been increased in price between 100 and 300 per cent – and Ghana's worsening economic situation were at the centre of the student protests.

The workers' committee issued a statement after the occupation at Legon claiming that the student body had "allowed themselves to be used by reactionary forces against the interest of the people".

The 'disappeared ones'

Junta fails to still storm of protest

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

If events over the past 10 days are anything to go by, the Argentine military junta's attempt to put an end to the issue of the "disappeared ones" has failed.

On April 29 the junta issued its "final document on the war against subversion and terrorism" in the 1970s, which proclaimed that the thousands of persons who disappeared should be considered dead "for all legal and administrative purposes".

The document was widely criticized by Argentine human rights organizations, political parties, the Roman Catholic Church hierarchy and public opinion in general. Internationally, there were protests from Italy, France and Spain, whose nationals are among the missing, as well as from the EEC. The Pope and Señor Javier Pérez Del Cuéllar, the United Nations Secretary-General, have made critical comments.

It is clear that military officers expected a wave of protests, but hoped that it would eventually, like a passing storm, blow over. This is not happening.

Developments on last Monday are symplomatic. General Cristino Nicolaides, the Army Commander, ordered the arrest of retired Colonel Bernardo José Menéndez, for speaking out against the junta's document. Colonel Menéndez, who was Deputy Interior Minster during the presidency of General Leopoldo Galtieri, has joined the Peronist Party since he stood down from active service.

He had said that the junta "cannot automatically close that tremendous period in Argentime contemporary history". He added that "justice will be done" in the cases of those who committed excesses in the counter-insurgency campaign. The colonel also said that the "definitive solution" to the issue of the "disappeared ones" lay in the hands of the next elected administration.

In a parallel development, Judge Fernando Zavalia has ordered the theree commanders-in-chief, who make up the ruling military junta, to supply "all information in their possession" on the abduction and murder of Elena Holmberg. Señrita Holmberg, a senior Argentine diplomat posted to the embassy in Paris, was kidnapped on December 20, 1978, her body was found floating in a river in January 1979. Her relatives have maintained that she had fallen foul of the Navy in an internal dispute. Judge Zavalia has now called on retired Admiral Emilio Massera, who was the Navy Commander at the time of the kidnapping to provide information.

It was a similar request for information from the armed forces last year which led to the resignation of Señor Pedro Narvaiz, another federal judge. After receiving threatening telephone calls he left the country and is now living in Brazil.

Even though many judges were appointed by the military after the 1976 coup, they are reopening precisely the type of investigations which the junta's document wants to keep closed.

Also on Monday the Power Workers' Union published advertisements in the local press, recalling the abduction of Oscar Smith, the union's secretary-general, on February 11, 1977. Señor Smith has not been seen since. The advertisement points out that Señor Smith was kidnapped just as he was about to reach agreement on a new improved labour contract.

It condemns the junta's document, adding: "Nothing could, nothing can, and nothing will be able to convince a single Argentine that Oscar Smith should not be produced alive, and that those responsible for the abduction – incredible at this stage of our civilization – should not be severly punished."

Reaction to the junta's document from church leaders have been particularly strong. Mgr Vicente Zazpe, the Archbishop of Santa Fe, has said that the junta's decision to describe "torture, kidnaps, clandestine murders, detention without trial, the handing of children of the victims to unknown people and the shameless pillage of Argentine homes by para-military or para-police elements, as acts of service, is unprecedented".

Rabbi Marshall Meyer has described the junta's document as "a profanation of Gods name".

Uganda lifts deadline on compensation

By Richard Dowden

The Uganda Government has lifted the time limit on claims for compensation for property expropriated by President Amin in 1972.

An Act passed by the Uganda Parliament in March this year set a 90-day time limit on the claims and the British Government asked that the deadline should be extended. Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said in a written reply in the House of Commons yesterday that the Foreign Office would be passing on this news to the claimants by cirular letter.

Meanwhile, Mr Shafiq Arain, the Uganda High Commissioner in London, has denied there will be any discrimination between Asian and non-Asian claimants. "All applications will be considered by one committee, whether they are from white or brown Britons, on the basis of absolute equality," he said.

The recent Ugandan legislation states that a Board of Valuers will be set up to consider compensation claims in accordance with the 1975 decree. This decree, however, dealt only with a number of listed companies, mainly white-owned, and not the mass of small businesses. It also provided for a tribunal to deal with disputed claims made up of members appointed by the Uganda and British governments. Fears had been expressed by some British Asians that these companies would be given special treatment.

Mr Arain said the Board of Valuers would cover all companies, not just the listed ones. There would be no tribunal and appeals against the Board of Valuers would be dealt with by the Uganda High Court.

There are an estimated 7,500 British claimants. President Amin expropriated an estimated £200m worth of property at 1972 prices.

Red Cross issues plea to world on abuse of Gulf war prisoners

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

After months of unavailing confidential protests to Iran and Iraq regarding brutal treatment and killings of war prisoners, the International Committee of the Red Cross yesterday made public its latest appeal to the two governments, and to the 153 other countries that are parties to the Geneva Conventions.

Its intitial private protests to the Gulf war belligerents were followed by the visit to Teheran and Baghdad of a senior Red Cross Official. He returned to Geneva headquarters with no more than a repetition of earlier assurances already shown to be without substance.

The ICRC statement says its delegates in both countries have been faced with "grave and repeated violations of international humanitarian law", witnessed by themselves in person or by reliable sources. These include summary execution of prisoners, abandoning of enemy wounded on the battlefield, and indiscriminate bombardment of towns and villages.

It describes Iran's violations of the conventions as "all the more serious, considering the large number of (Iraqi) prisoners" 45,000-50,000, to most of whom the ICRC no longer has access. Using "continuous delaying tactics", the Iranian authorities have raised obstacles and restrictions, refusing to allow ICRC delegates to visit some camps.

In addition, Iraqi prisoners are subjected – increasingly since September – to ideological and political pressures, contrary to the conventions, including intimidation, humiliation and forced participation in demonstrations against their own Government. Incidents at some camps have led to deaths and injuries.

In Iraq, the ICRC registered 6,800 Iranian prisoners of war by the beginning of March who, after initial difficulties, have been permitted to correspond with their families, as stipulated in the conventions, and receive visits from its delegates.

But the Red Cross is convinced that other Iranian prisoners – it has the names of several hundred – have been concealed from it since the war started two and a half years ago and are held in places to which delegates do not have access.

So far, the statement adds, only a few dozen such prisoners have been returned to the regular prisoner of war camps in Iraq and registered normally. There has been ill treatment of prisoners in those camps and disorders have been quelled by force.

Both countries so far have repatriated only a few of the seriously wounded who, under the conventions, should be exchanged between warring parties. In violition of the conventions also, the Iraqi Army has moved "tens of thousands" of Iranian civilians into Iraqi territory.

The ICRC says its appeal to all countries party to the conventions has been issued in the hope they can induce Iran and Iraq to ensure international humanitarian law is applied and violations ended. In particular, it urges that, as provided for in the conventions, protecting powers be appointed to represent the belligerents' interests in each other's territory.

It hopes the appeal will be heeded and the importance of its mission and the rule of law recognized "in the transcending interest of humanity and as a step to the restoration of peace".

In the context of ICRC operations generally, a public appeal is in the nature of a last resort. Delegates have clearly been appalled by the ferocity shown by both sides from time to time during the hostilities.

Bogus degrees

Charlotte, North Carolina (AP) – FBI agents seized records from Arizona to Florida at the climax of a three-year investigation into "diploma mills" in eight states that sold false university degrees to "hundreds of people in every profession". They said indictments could follow against 38 mail-order colleges.



Tearful reunion: After 35 years Mr Cuizhixi, aged 49, a Chinese peasant (left) meets former Marine Roy Sibit of Ohio, on his arrival in San Francisco. Mr Sibit befriended him "like a father" in war-torn China when he was a street urchin.

Record fire damages enrich lawyers

From Christopher Thomas, New York

A $140m (£90m) damages settlement, the biggest in US legal history, has been agreed in a lawsuit resulting from a fire at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas in 1980 in which 84 people died.

The settlement, to be met by the hotel and other defendants, will make a panel of 10 lawyers rich overnight because the 1,357 claimants they represent agreed at the outset to pay a fee of 5 per cent of the final award.

Negotiations are continuing with 10 other claimants but they are expected to settle soon. Still more money is likely to be forthcoming when a lawsuit against 26 more defendants is heard

Mr John Cummings, liaison counsel for the legal panel and a Las Vegas lawyer specializing in disaster cases, said that his personal fee was "almost adequate".

Most of the remaining defendants are manufacturers of plastic products that burnt and emitted toxic gases that Mr Cummings said caused all 84 deaths. Another 700 people were injured in the fire.

MGM's portion of the damages is $75m. The second largest payment of $10.5m will be made by a company that installed the heating and air conditioning. An electrical contractor will pay $10m.

UN asks for cash to halt march of deserts

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi

The world's developed nations were accused here yesterday of paying lip service to the protection of the environment while starving the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) of the funds it needs to coordinate urgently needed work.

Dr Mostafa Tolba, Unep's executive director, who opened the annual meeting of the organizations governing council here yesterday, said: "Nations consistently affirm the crucial importance of the environmental mandate while keeping Unep and its partners in the environmental field hopelessly underfunded."

He accused governments of calling for environmental action plans and then allowing them to gather dust.

He said a world plan, for instance, to counter the spread of deserts was being treated as a "talking shop", while little is being done to raise the funds to carry out the action plan.

Dr Tolba expressed profound concern over the recent oil spill in the Gulf. "I appeal for the nations concerned to lay aside political differences so that the countries of the region can come together to deal with this potentially dangerous situation," he said.

Unep and other United Nations agencies were fully prepared to participate in efforts to overcome the effects of the spill from an oil-drilling platform in the area damaged in the Iran-Iraq war.

Dr Tolba said Unep was facing problems because pledges of financial support had fallen well short of expectations. The governing council will have to accept a scaling down of its operations, he said.

Instead of the budgeted $85m (£66m) expected to become available to Unep in 1984 and 1985, only $65m (£43m) will materialize if contributions continue at the present rate.

● Without lead: The average British motorist could expect to pay about £45 more a year to run a car after 1985 as the price of driving on lead-free petrol.

This was the figure calculated for a special conference on lead in petrol called by the European Environmental Bureau and the European Consumer Union Bureau which ended in Brussels yesterday, Ian Murray writes.

A report produced by Mrs Lesley Yeoman, of the British Consumer Association, showed that a lead-free engine would add about £50 to the price of a car.

Paris seeks 30bn-franc EEC oil loan

From Diana Geddes
Paris

M Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister, has confirmed that France is seeking a loan from the EEC, believed to be nearly 30 billion francs ($3.7 billion). It is designed to strengthen its foreign reserves, severely depleted by both the Government's efforts to defend the franc on the foreign exchange markets and by France's huge foreign trade deficit.

It is the third time in the past six months that the Government has sought multi-billion dollar foreign loans. It is likely to be granted and it will bring France's estimated gross foreign debt to more than $50 billion (£31 billion), double the level when the Socialists came to power two years ago.

France raised a $4 billion loan on international markets last November, and a further loan from Saudi Arabia at the beginning of this year, which was believed to be between $2 billion and $4 billion.

The Government has applied for the loan from the EEC "oil facility", which was set up in 1975 after the first oil shock, to help member states with severe balance of payments difficulties. One of the conditions for such a loan is that the borrower give assurances to the EEC that the necessary measures will be taken to correct its trade imbalance.

Distasteful though it may be for the French Government to have to submit its economic policies for review by its European partners, it is considered less humiliating than having to obey the IMF, which an international loan would have been likely to entail. The EEC Finance Ministers are expected to approve the loan at their meeting on May 16.

In the seven weeks since the franc was devalued, the Bank of France has restored to its foreign reserves more than the 50 billion francs which it is believed to have spent in defence of the French currency in the months leading up to the realignment of the European Monetary System in March.

The franc is now holding up well against the other EMS currencies, but a new attack could come at any time, particularly if the latest austerity measures do not appear to be bearing fruit quickly enough. The Government wishes to be better prepared this time. It does not want to have to seek a further foreign loan when the franc is weak and when such a move would only aggravate speculative pressures.

Senate compromises on Salvador aid

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

President Reagan is putting economic pressure on Nicaragua to try to reduce its means of financing its military build-up and support for left-wing causes in Central America.

But as the White House announced on Monday the President's decision to cut Nicaragua's sugar export quota to the United States, the Senate foreign relations committee adopted a compromise programme for military aid to El Salvador after rejecting the bigger increases sought by Mr Reagan.

The committee voted to cut $70m (£56m) off the President's $222.6m military aid request for the next two years for El Salvador, which is battling with left-wing guerrillas. It voted by 17-0 to limit all US military aid to El Salvador to $76.3m each year.

If approved by the full Congress, the committee's action would also prohibit any increase in the present 55 American military trainers in El Salvador. Instead, it earmarked $20m each year to allow most of the training of Salvadorean troops to be done in the United States.

Senator Richard Lugar, a Republican from Indiana, said that committee members should "take responsibility" if President Reagan's programme to help El Salvador resist guerrillas fails because of funding cuts by Congress.

Meanwhile, the sugar export quota freed by the US reduction would be added to the quotas of Nicaragua's three neighbours – Honduras, Costa Rica and El Salvador. They generally support President Reagan's Central America policy. Honduras would get 52 per cent of it, Costa Rica 30 per cent and El Salvador 18 per cent.

"By denying to Nicaragua a foreign exchange benefit resulting from the high US sugar price, we hope to reduce the resources available to that country for financing its military build-up and its support for subversion and extremist violence in the region," a White House statement said.

Nicaragua last year earned about $15.5m in sugar sales to the United States.

Washington embargoed Cuban sugar imports more than 20 years ago, and Cuba now heavily depends on Moscow to buy its sugar crop.

● SAN SALVADOR: The Salvadorean Army said yesterday that government troops had recaptured the village of Cinquera in north-east El Salvador, which had been captured by left-wing guerrillas on Saturday. The commander of the Tejutepeque unit said his forces had inflicted heavy casualties, but gave no figures.

Thousands back Ethiopia call-up with war songs

Addis Ababa (AFP) – Old warrior songs rang through Revolution Square here yesterday as tens of thousands of people demonstrated in support of last week's Government proclamation launching national military service.

The crowd, estimated to be one of the biggest of its kind in recent years, carried banners and chanted slogans backing the decree that legalized conscription in Ethiopia for the first time. Traditional battle songs were sung during the six-hour rally adressed by Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, the head of state.

In his speech Colonel Mengistu recalled that weakened defences had caused disasters in past revolutions.

The ruling military council, or Dergue, announced on May 3, that all citizens between the ages of 18 and 30 would be eligible for conscription.

Spain to send Nazi back to Netherlands

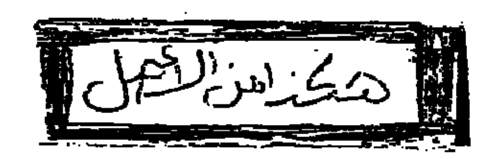
From Richard Wigg
Madrid

A former member of the Nazi SS, sentenced for crimes during the Second World War, is to be extradited to The Netherlands, a Madrid court decided yesterday.

Auke-Bert Pattist, born in Utrecht and now aged 62, has been living in Spain for more than 30 years, recently running a language school in Oviedo. He was arrested by the Spanish police last February.

The decision could have repercussions for other former Nazis who came to Franco's Spain after 1945.

The Dutch authorities originally asked for Mr Pattist's extradition under their treaty with Spain in 1979. He had been sentenced by a Dutch court to life imprisonment for joining the forces of an enemy of The Netherlands, and for detaining and ill-treating Dutch citizens, many of whom went to concentration camps.



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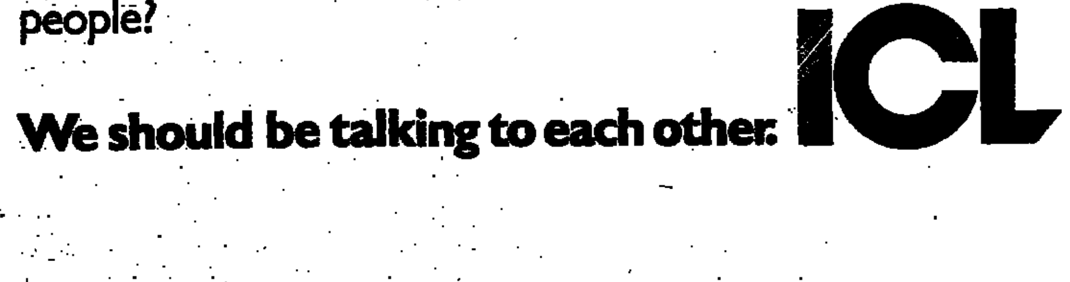
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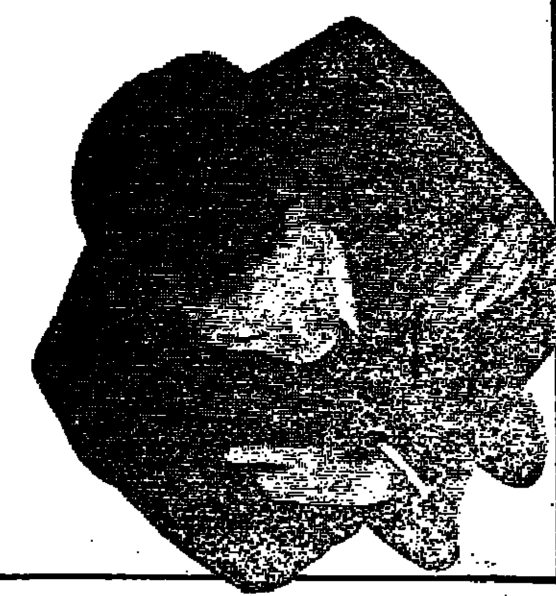
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SPECTRUM

The cleaning classes move upstairs

MODERN TIMES

A sideways look at the British way of life

Back in the old days, when Mrs Dale was still telling her cleaning lady Mrs Maggs how worried she was about Jim, everyone knew where they were with the daily.

She was the jolly, dependable woman of an indeterminate age who wore a flowered apron crossing over at the front and tied her hair in a scarf to keep out the dust. She usually smoked, but never dropped so much ash that her carpet sweeper clogged. Even Tommy Handley new where he was with his, she aways wanted to know if she could "do him now".

But in the last decade the daily help, the domestic, the char, or "the lady that does", as she has variously been called, has been transformed. She has been getting younger, and she wouldn't be seen dead in an apron. The modern cleaning lady wears a jogging suit that clings to her thighs, has well varnished finger nails, refuses to clean ovens, and can, on occasions, be a man.

Someone in jeans is now the answer to the age old quest for a household servant. Out-of-work actors, poets, philosophers, violinists, young mothers and debutante daughters are taking the place of the little old lady from round the corner who has been "coming in to do" for years.

The days of the tweeny, the between maid who helped out in both the kitchen and the house; or even the all-purpose skivvy have gone. The cleaning operative is with us. As the sociologist Dr Paul Arthyre-Clough pointed out recently "The servant is emerging as our newest privileged class".

Certainly the new breed of cleaning lady or cleaning man would not disgrace a dinner party. On the night after the Grand National I was seated in North Wales beside a clean cut young man with delicate pronunciation and a lemon pullover who informed me just after the kipper paté that he "did 11 loos yesterday". It was not an exception, he did them every day. "A cleaner wouldn't be seen dead in an overall", he said confidentially. "They much prefer track suits, much sexier."

The employment agencies have already detected the change. "We find we tend to be getting younger women these days, aged about 30 or so" is how the famous Mrs Lines Agency in Kensington, which has been supplying residential and daily help for 90 years, explains it. "They come from a very nice class of home, and want to do a little part time work, perhaps to fit in with their children's schooling. But we only get about one man a week, and we can't often help him".

Men either set up on their own, or go to one of the agencies that specialize in supplying temporary domestic help.

Recession or not, the demand for domestic help has never faltered. Few people may be prepared to admit these days that they employ servants, but the desire to hire someone to vacuum the carpet, look after the children, dash round with a duster and do the ironing is as great as it has ever been. Enter the young mother and the resting actor. Even the once-fashionable Filipino maid and the smart Spanish girl have waned in the face of fiercer immigration control and the recession; while the jovial black lady is now rather more often found in hospitals or offices than in family homes.

The middle class family may no longer be able to afford a Margaret Powell, who started as a maid in Hove in 1925 at the age of 15 for £24 a year with half a day off a week, but in her place has come the au pair, the mother's help, and the different kind of cleaning lady. As the boundaries of the middle class have spread so the old distinctions have blurred. The new daily helps are not part of the old hierarchy. By the middle of the 1960s it was quite respectable for a daughter to take a cordon bleu cookery course and do a little light domestic work.

Admittedly the middle classes were not prepared to go the lengths of Lord Raglan's valet, and share the siege of Sebastopol so that they could continue to give him lunch, but they were quite prepared to become founder members of the black economy, undetected by the Inland Revenue, who received their wages in private and in cash.

Not that their pay is always astronomical. Not all that long ago the Dowager Countess of Radnor was still paying her housekeeper £2.50 a week in addition to her free flat for 12 hours' work, but they have since parted. There is at least one judge in Chelsea who pays his cleaning lady only £1.50 an hour, even though the rate in London is now £2 and above; and the employer is expected to pay the costs of transport, food and to provide as much coffee (tea is very much the old style) as is necessary.

Indeed the change that has overtaken the domestic daily has also begun to spread to office cleaners as well. The older Mrs Mopps are being steadily replaced by younger men and women who are using more elaborate, and expensive, equipment. There is certainly at least one former London bus driver, for example, vacuuming the floors of a television company in the evenings, even if the rates of pay are not quite as generous as they are for a daily.

But the gentrification of the daily has not quite changed everything. As the lady in the Kensington agency puts it: "Our clients still want someone with experience in their home, who won't ruin their Chinese tapestry, and will be able to iron their silk underclothes properly".

And my cleaning lady has just bought herself a new cotton housecoat, which is positively covered in flowers, and buttons down the front. But she insists she isn't going to wear anything underneath it in the summer.

Geoffrey Wansell

Mike Abrahams



Many hands of light labour, left to right: Bridget, Pauline, Annie, Ellen, and Jean

Good cleaners attract possessive adjectives like mirrors attract dust: ask any employer about a coveted daily and he or she will launch into a colourful description of "my Hilda", "my extra pair of hands", "my Mrs Fix-it"; I've even heard a horribly patronizing "my little treasure". Nodding wives at lunch may laugh at her funny ways, husbands may clench teeth as they fail to find some necessary article of clothing, washed and whisked away by the daily – but both would sooner bite out the tongue than criticize. For a good cleaning person, nowadays, is hard to find.

What dailies think about their employers, however, is a potentially more interesting subject, but one which, at a moment's thought will reveal, you are unlikely ever to discover. Rose would have died before spilling the beans about the Bellamys and though today's "help" thankfully comes in a less obsequious mould, it will be as unforthcoming. After all, discretion apart, who wants to risk losing a job as a result of talking to a journalist about an employers' foibles, fancies or habits which, like odd socks, are probably best ignored.

However, since the inter-dependency – some would say symbiosis – exists, a good compromise seemed to be to let employers talk and dailies be photographed. This was when the problems started.

The first of a series of frantic second-thought phone calls came from a lady who had a great deal to say about her Danish au pair (keen to find photographic fame in *The Times*) before she realised that the Lorelei's visa had expired and they might both be "in hot water with the Home Office". The suave young solicitor who had raved about his Filipino regretted that she refused to be photographed. A third lady was more than happy to talk – anonymously – about "my delightful young black man" (she always prefers to employ men because she thinks it demeaning to ask another woman to get down on her knees and scrub). The young man agreed to be photographed – then rang at 11.15 pm to say that his parents had said that if he was *he* would be leaving home. A charming actor who cleaned when resting thought his career prospects might be a little tarnished if he appeared as "home help rather than Henry V". Yet more dailies wanted their names changed to lessen the likelihood of a visit from the taxman or the DHSS; and middle-class housewives withdrew the offer of a friendly chat after husbands muttered about stamps.

And so it went on. I shall never quite be sure whether my own diminutive Chinese daily (or in my case "weekly") refused to be photographed through a natural and very real Oriental reserve, or whether she too feared officialdom. I do know that a brown, if not downright black, economy is as busily at work in the withdrawing rooms of Chelsea as it is in the kitchens of Camden Town – though not, I hasten to add in any of the households mentioned here.

Judy Froshaug

Sue Farrell,
mother and student
(ANNIE)

"Annie's been with me for three years and comes three mornings a week. She's *very* reliable which is something I haven't had before; and she makes the place look clean. She has her own routine, does the entire house every week in her own way. At 12.30 she makes tea and biscuits and always calls me, or if I'm lying down offers to bring it to me. There's an underlying element of a mother/daughter relationship – she's one of the family, helps with the kids' birthday parties, baby sits. She's very excited about the pregnancy, going through it with me, very caring. She's already saying 'You can't lift *that*'; and she's had a dreadful job with the builders who've been here since July, covering the floor with great dirty footprints after she's Hoovered – and the dog hairs all over the carpet. I couldn't do as much as I do without her. Eventually what I feel I pay for is time to do other work. Annie loves cleaning and does it in a nice relaxed way. It would be a real chore without her. We've established a relationship that is good. If I were ill I know Terry could ring her up and ask her to help; we have a nice balance that I know from past experience is difficult to achieve. The great thing is to go out in the morning knowing that when you come home the carpet will look like a new-mown lawn. If she were to go I'd feel pretty desperate – I think I'd go to bed for six months and hide under the sheets. We'd all miss her terribly."

Ravi Vij,
bachelor and manager
(BRIDGET)



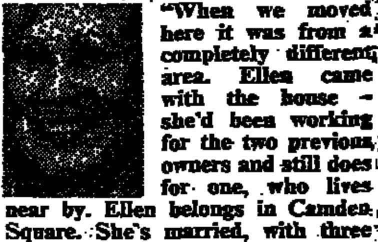
"I call her little Bridget: she's a *very* big Irish Lady. The first time she came I had forgotten she was due and as I put my key in the front door I don't know who was the more frightened – me or her. 'I hope that's you Bridget' I said . . . She comes twice a week but I hardly ever see her. When I do she's always very polite, always smiling . . . I have her essentially because I can't be bothered cleaning up. I found her through a friend who came to dinner one night and refused to come again until I had someone in to clean for me. She makes the beds, Hoovers, does all the washing up and tidies. She leaves notes – things like 'next time you go shopping, buy some bleach' or 'do you think it would be possible to buy some more pillow-cases' – that's when I haven't been to the launderette for weeks. She has her own key. She's very good. The one I had before was terrible – a young student. Unfortunately he stole. I used to put all 50p coins in a piggy bank and when it was full we'd throw a party. One week I counted and we had £85. The next week I counted and there was only £30. I said 'if you'd needed money you should have asked me'. I never saw him again. I'd miss Bridget if she stopped coming . . . I eat out three or four nights a week but sometimes ask people back for a drink, or a meal and always leave the dishes and glasses. When I come home they were all beautifully polished, not a smudge to be seen."

Louise Nicholson,
journalist and wife
(JEAN AND PAULINE)



"This is a five-storey Georgian house and when we moved in it hadn't been properly cleaned for years. I thought I could do it all myself but when I found myself scrubbing the kitchen floor at 2am I had to admit defeat. I advertised in a local news agent and interviewed a stream of people. I whipped them up to the top of the house and when they were *panting* at the third floor I knew they weren't going to manage the *stairs*, let alone clean. Then someone said 'you want Jean and Pauline – they've got nice broad shoulders' . . . They work as a team. Apart from us they do the local hairdressers, a school, church and a publisher. I take my instructions from them. I want them to be completely in charge and would rather go out and earn the money to pay for their help than do it myself. We have a very strong relationship, often have a cup of instant coffee together. I hear their troubles and tell them mine. They like to be 'in the know'. And they absolutely adore Nick – when I went away for a month they looked after him beautifully. One day they came into my study and said 'we want a word with you'. My heart stopped – I thought they were going to leave. 'You don't like ironing do you?' they said, 'We've got the house sorted, now we'll do the ironing – we don't think your husband should have to go to work in an unironed shirt every day.' We call them our fairy godmothers, the girls. I couldn't do without them."

Rosalind Rozen,
mother and student
(ELLEN)



"When we moved here it was from a completely different area. Ellen came with the house – she'd been working for the two previous owners and still does for one, who lives near by. Ellen belongs in Camden Square. She's married, with three children. Her husband's the local milkman. She's completely indigenous to the area, would only shop round here, wouldn't dream of going shopping in Selfridges for example . . . We are friendly with one another but she's very discreet, takes pride in not discussing other employers, though if we feel we've both been very busy we sometimes sit down and have a chat. Though I'm a good 10 years older, I feel we're a similar age, we confide about our children, the terrible things teenagers do! . . . She comes every morning, cleans tidies up. If I'm away she always has my dog, looks after the house and plants. We don't interrupt each other: she knows if I'm working. She asks how my essays are going; though she doesn't know what they're about, she takes more interest than the other members of the family! I find her quite a lift to my morale. She takes as much pride in what she does as I do – and she does a lot for me, sometimes helps with a dinner party. There's nothing that I regard 'her' job and not 'mine'. If I feel like doing something in the house I will – and I always make my bed and clean my bath . . . . I call myself not liberal, not socialist but egalitarian.

● Tomorrow: Friday Page: Anatomy of a best seller: Medical Briefing looks at the new Pill



Light the beacon, sound the tocsin

MOREOVER . . . Miles Kington



So it was June 9! The wires of the world hummed with the glad tidings, while satellites in the sky hiccupped slightly and got on with it. Sleepy herdsmen in the Sudan woke each other and whispered: "Maggie has chosen a date". In Australia, the bushwhackers ceased momentarily from whacking the bush and said in unison: "So the old girl has decided not to run her five years, but to do what is best for the country. How wise." In old Kabul, even, the editor of the *Old Kabul Times* told his lead feature writer that he would have to hold over his in-depth interview with the Soviet commander and write a hasty column on the SDP threat.

In Britain itself, the excitement could only be compared to a new influenza virus. A chain of bonfires was lit stretching from Land's End (admission £10) to John O' Groats (free), and a crowd of excited teenagers danced round each blazing beacon, smashing shop windows and looting videos. In Wales, the news was announced in two languages, and understood in one. A lonely PC on the beat in the Lake District heard the news over his walkie-talkie and decided not to take action, as no crime seemed to have been committed.

The news was even flashed to places where Maggie Thatcher's name meant nothing. Samarkand, Istanbul, Newcastle upon Tyne. In China, where they had not had a genuine three-cornered election for more than 1,500 years, the excitement was barely controllable and the announcement was flashed from hilltop to hilltop by semaphore. As there are over 4,000 characters in Chinese semaphore, and each transmission needs a team of 30 skilled flag-wavers, progress was slow; in one province, the news actually caught up with the previous announcement, that Roger Bannister had beaten four minutes for the mile.

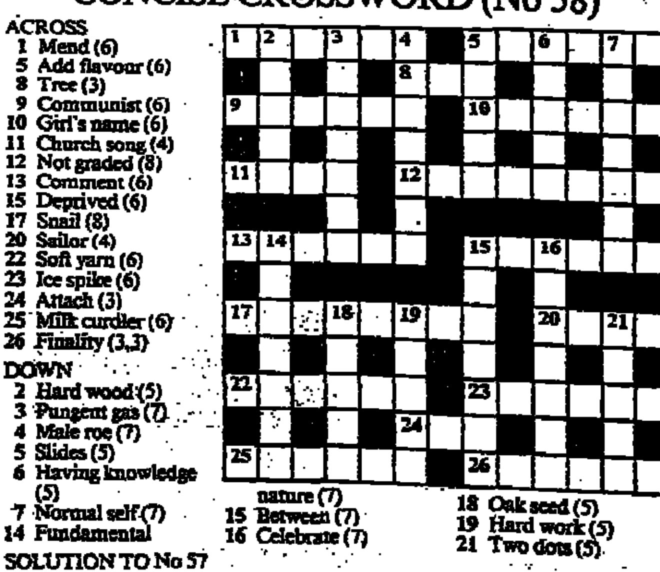
Had she timed it right? That was the question that grizzled old newsmen in surburban Addis Ababa were asking one another. Many of them had not eaten properly for over two months, but their hunger was forgotten in the excitement of debating whether the recent boundary changes could compensate for lost Tory votes. In Nairobi, where David Owen is known as "suave-little-devil" and Michael Foot is known, if at all, as "he-who-has-borrowed-his-hair-from-a-bigger-man", spontaneous folk songs were composed to the effect that if this swing were repeated all over the country, the Tories would win by more than 600 seats, which is obviously ridiculous, what is your comment on that, Gerald Kaufman?

In the Kremlin the lights burnt late as Yuri Andropov and a team of crack British defectors worked through the night, wondering whether to throw their weight behind Maggie Thatcher and thus defeat her, as they have done so successfully with the Socialists in the recent German election. In the White House, the candles were guttering low when the news of June 9 arrived, which was strange, as it was only 10 am, but you have to remember that Mr Reagan comes from an older generation which is only happy in a log cabin. And in Buenos Aires, nobody could understand why the British Army had not taken over.

In meeting halls throughout Britain, meanwhile, Social Democrats were wrist wrestling with Liberals for the honour of representing the Alliance. Tory candidates were giving the last polish to their new Sierras. Labour candidates were restoring the shine on their regional accents, except Tony Benn. And deep in the heart of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, candidates clad in tartan, coal-dust and hand grenades were putting the finishing touches to their election addresses.

Only in one place was there complete calm. In the civilized world there was just one spot where June 9 meant nothing more than the space between June 8 and June 10. Yes, in the Moreover offices the only sound to be heard was the deep snoring of experts who have heard it all before.

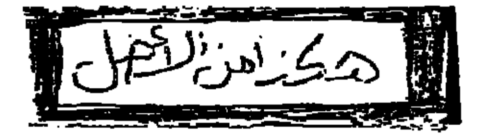
CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 58)



ACROSS
1 Mend (6)
5 Add flavour (6)
8 Tree (3)
9 Communist (6)
10 Girl's name (6)
11 Church song (4)
12 Not graded (8)
13 Comment (6)
15 Deprived (6)
17 Snail (8)
20 Sailor (4)
22 Soft yarn (6)
23 Ice spike (6)
24 Attach (3)
25 Milk curdler (6)
26 Finality (3,3)

DOWN
2 Hard wood (5)
3 Pungent gas (7)
4 Male roe (7)
5 Slides (5)
6 Having knowledge (5)
7 Normal self (7)
14 Fundamental nature (7)
15 Between (7)
16 Celebrate (7)
18 Oak seed (5)
19 Hard work (5)
21 Two dots (5)

SOLUTION TO No 57
ACROSS: 1 Bandit 4 Forbid 7 Yawl 8 Raincoat 9 Jailbird 12 Fen 15 Drench 16 Quorum 17 MoT 19 Loosebox 24 Beanpole 25 Stir 26 Gargle 27 Flunky
DOWN: 1 Boys 2 Newsagent 3 Throb 4 Friar 5 Ruck 6 Irate 10 Local 11 Douse 12 Forgotten 13 Numb 14 Edam 18 Opera 20 Ozone 21 Sheaf 22 Snug 23 Pray



BOOKS

Seriously crazy times

Robert Lowell
A Biography
By Ian Hamilton
(Faber, £12.50)

Robert Lowell (1917-1977) was a manic depressive who suffered complete breakdown and spells in hospital more or less every other year throughout the second half of his life. He speeded up, displaying what he himself called "pathological enthusiasm", fell in love, collapsed and smelt the sulphur and brimstone of the Devil's work in places as varied as Boston, New York, Buenos Aires, London, Salzburg, Cincinnati, Bloomington (Indiana), Yaddo and Maine. Nor, was he spared on recovery, for when Lowell was himself again, he remembered it all:

I dabble in the dapple of the day,/a heap of wet clothes, seamy, shivering,/I see my flesh and bedding washed with light,/my child exploding into dynamite,/my wife ... your lightness alters everything,/and tears the black web from the spider's sack,/as your heart hops and flutters like a hare./Poor turtle, tortoise, if I cannot clear/the surface of these troubled waters here,/absolve me, help me, Dear Heart, as you bear/this world's dead weight and cycle on your back.
("Night Sweat", 1963.)

Few writers have written with such visceral relentlessness out of their own experience – intimate letters, phone calls, conversations and telegrams, Ian Hamilton tells us, all went into the poems – and it will surprise no readers of this marvellous biography to learn that there were those on the edge of his acquaintance who suspected malingering for effect and good copy, and vigorously deplored his treatment of the wives and the hapless women whom, in mania, he seized on to replace them. Even though we may share these suspicions and dismay, Lowell still emerges as a tragic and exasperating figure and perhaps the greatest poet of our language between 1945 and 1970.

As to that, it is too soon to say, and Hamilton does not push the point beyond placing the evidence down more fully than any commentator before him. Himself a poet, editor and critic of poets, and a weekly columnist with an underrated sense of absurdity, worldliness and humorous detachment, he deploys these gifts with irony and compassion on so completely self-absorbed a figure as Lowell. What could not have been assumed in a first biography is the spaciousness with which Hamilton documents the subject – with index, the book runs more than five hundred pages – not only by describing and subjectively placing the poetry, but by the invaluable testimonies of Lowell's friends.

Most remarkable of all is his fair-mindedness to all concerned. This makes the book more moving, not less: it strikes me as a model in the art of writing well for both sides of the Atlantic in the same text and also in the scarcely less delicate one of recording the recently dead and their conflicting survivors. *Robert Lowell* is one of the most heartbreaking and painful lives I have ever read.

The American Parnassus, is *terra incognita* to those of us who do not keep its Baedekers and Michelins – the *New York Review of Books*, the *Partisan Kenyon* and *Sewanee Reviews* – up to date, and Hamilton describes the Parnassians and New Critics closest to Lowell – John Crowe Ransom, his teacher; Randall Jarrell and Allen Tate, his most respected critic-friends; Theodore Roethke, John Berryman and Elisabeth Bishop, his brothers and sister in poetry – in a manner which removes them from the American version of our Bloomsbury knowingness, tells us what they were all doing and brings them alive.

An understanding of this network is crucial to the pressures of expectation for genius which destroyed so many of its members driving them to run into the traffic or jump off a bridge. Lowell was terrified to fail: At first attracted by America's ponderous acclaim and the courtship of Kennedys, he then fled from the implications of laureateship and bardolatry in typically ambivalent style.

I cannot take it. One grows sick
Of stretching for this rhetoric,
this hammering, allegoric splendour ...

But stretch for it he did, and middle America gruffly blew its nose. Not for long, however, for Lowell had always taken his own incurable illness as a metaphor for the sickness of the world, refusing to fight in 1943, believing (so early) that the Allies had already exceeded their brief to defend with the mindless destruction of civilian targets; becoming manically obsessed with Communist infiltration in New England (1949); he spoke on behalf of unilateral disarmament and against Johnson's policies in Vietnam. He was a big, clownish-looking man, and smiled the wide smudged smile of a child who does not wish to upset anyone and knows he has something to hide. "He had something untouchable", reported Norman Mailer from Washington in *Armies of the Night*,

'all insane in its force: one felt immediately that there were any number of causes for which the man would be ready to die, and for some he would fight, with an axe in his hand and a Cromwellian light in his eye.

They were, a Lowell colleague at Essex remembers of the late Sixties, "seriously crazy times". If it is still too soon to write with historical detachment of figures such as Ivan Illich, whom Lowell visited in Cuernavaca, or Eugene McCarthy, whose supporters he dismayed by his court-jestering, it is even more premature to expect the last word on the three difficult and long-suffering women, all still alive, who married Robert Lowell: Jean Stafford, Elizabeth Hardwick and Lady Caroline Blackwood.


Robert Lowell photographed in 1977

Each has apparently collaborated closely with Hamilton but it is Hardwick, the dear heart of "Night Sweat", who emerges as the hero of this book and if, in the end, we value Lowell's spiritual grandeur and return to the poems with new illuminations in hand, it is because we watch Lowell's cycles of disintegration, recovery and genius primarily through the sharp, forthright and unsentimental sympathy of the woman who stuck it out with him for more than twenty years, in the process producing her own work, a daughter and the *New York Review*; and because Ian Hamilton has dramatized a brilliant, intellectual world, in which people behave to each other no better nor worse than elsewhere, but have rather more to say to one another about it, with a sustaining intelligence and narrative skill.

Michael Ratcliffe

Civilizing Bellona

The Causes of War
By Michael Howard
(Maurice Temple Smith, £10)

The ancient Chinese sage (or junta of sages) known to us as the *Lao Tzu* once observed: "Truthful words are not beautiful; beautiful words are not truthful. Good words are not persuasive; persuasive words are not good. He who knows has no wide learning; he who has no wide learning does not know." Professor Howard is a splendid occidental answer to these dubious propositions. An elegance of style which, since his much esteemed early work *The Franco-Prussian War*, has always distinguished his writing has not been achieved by a sacrifice of accuracy or relentless extension of his "wide learning", and his critical judgments – sometimes feline, sometimes ruthless – are usually cogent. More than that, I suppose that during recent decades nobody on either side of the Atlantic has so effectively brought military studies securely within the domain of the humane disciplines. If he has not civilized Bellona single-handed, he is *primus inter pares*.

The virtue of a collection of occasional essays and addresses like this new one (a successor and complement to his 1970 *Studies in War and Peace*) is not that one looks to it for the close-grained "study of original sources" so dear to the desiccated Casaubons of academic history, but that by meandering over the scope and range of its contents one can get closer to the quiddity of a man's mind. In his Franco-Prussian book and his outstanding volume on Grand Strategy in the official series of war-histories Professor Howard showed, anyway, that he is perfectly capable of picking a path through the minefields of "original sources" and, no doubt, if Mrs Thatcher and her watch-dogs ultimately allow the overdue publication of his official history of Deception in World War Two that impression will be confirmed.

In a collection which ranges from Thucydides to nukes, and from the elder Pitt's conduct of the Seven Years War to a penetrating analysis of Kissinger's diplomacy, the connecting thread, I believe, is to be found in Professor Howard's deep but dispassionate study of Clausewitz – in his grasp of the truth which the great man interminably exemplified that in war every thing is simple, but that the simplest thing is the most difficult.

Because Howard has a very lucid mind he is an adept at identifying and articulating the simplicities, but the young Guards officer who fought with distinction in the Italian campaign always qualifies his presentation of those simplicities with an extreme awareness of the "frictions", as Clausewitz put it, (or perhaps the "snafus", as the Americans would say) which inevitably arise on the battlefield or in the council-chamber. This balance between the percipient, the sceptical and the compassionate is well illustrated in his long post-mortem analysis of Liddell Hart. A personal debt as a young scholar to Sir Basil for much typical kindness does not prevent him from a scrupulous impartiality (which, as one who shared that kindness, I greatly admire) in putting his finger on the flaws as well as the constructive originality of a nonpareil.

His lecture on "The Use and Abuse of Military History" ends thus: "it must never be forgotten that the true use of history, military or civil, is, as Jacob Burckhardt once said, not to make men clever for the next time; it is to make them wise for ever." One sees why his roots run back to Thucydides.

Ronald Lewin

Caesar-watcher

Julius Caesar and his Public Image
By Zwi Yavetz
(Thames & Hudson, £15)

More ink has been expended on J. Caesar over the past 20 centuries than almost any other individual apart from J. Christ. But we still cannot agree about him. Was he a great innovative statesman, or a gambler who wanted to be king, or even a prototype Fascist dictator? Is there anything left to say?

Of course there is, so long as men are interested in their past and in the causes of great events. Professor Yavetz approaches Caesar by way of his image, his *fama* and *existimatio*, which the contemporary Saatchi & Saatchi started creating even in his life-time, and the image makers have been working on ever since. He discusses the work of Caesar-watchers of the past 150 years, much of it in German, and comes to original conclusions.

Even those who reject the idea that Caesar tried to establish a monarchy have to admit that he was much more than just a Roman dictator. His performance and achievements made restoration of the old Republic impossible. He was on the whole a moderate statesman, who was nevertheless unable to avoid the impression that he put through his moderate policies by ruthless force. He was *the last great genius of the* ancient world, but the new regime would be established by a less brilliant and therefore a more tolerant man. We shall go on arguing about him until the ink runs out.

Philip Howard

Hamlet follows his father's hand from *Beardsley* by Simon Wilson (Phaidon, £12.50)

Muslim art and history

Atlas of the Islamic World since 1500
By Francis Robinson
(Phaidon, £18)

"Atlas" is a misnomer for this beautiful book. "Illustrated history" would be nearer the mark. The maps, though interesting, are perhaps the least satisfactory part of it. The use of too many similar shades of green and brown makes some of them difficult to follow; but they are easily outnumbered by the pictures, which bring the *Islamic world before the reader* in all its breathtaking richness and diversity.

Here are the splendours, in painting and architecture, of Safavid Iran, Mughal India, and Ottoman Turkey. A series of pictures and diagrams illustrate the art of Sinan, Sulaiman the Magnificent's great mosque-builder, and *his successive* efforts to design an Islamic structure that would surpass the thousand-year-old cathedral of St Sophia.

But, moving down the centuries, we find mosques in the same regions, built within the last hundred years, which are much more obviously mosques. "Over much of the Islamic world," the author explains, "the influences of Islamic reformism, and sometimes of colonial rule, have combined to make architectural styles resemble the buildings of Middle Eastern Islam at the expense of indigenous styles."

Nor is Dr Robinson's Islam a matter of art and architecture only. It is a faith and a community of human beings. Here are Ayatollah Khomeini and his son Ahmad, in the happier days of February 1979, embracing Yassir Arafat: "the open affection which these three men are showing is typical among Muslims who regard each other warmly". Here is a class of boys in Oman, learning their Koran cross-legged on the floor while the master stands over them with a long stick.

Here is a boatload of white-clad pilgrims, lined up for prayer on the deck as their ship approaches Jedda. And here is the late Anwar Sadat, the "Believer President" as he liked to be called, sitting at prayer in tweed suit and striped tie, on the floor of a new mosque near Ismailia. And many, many more phographs of astonishing impact – carefully chosen and beautifully reproduced. The Islamic calendar is explained, the various Arabic scripts identified.

Edward Mortimer

Nabobs and Nobs

India Britannica
By Geoffrey Moorhouse
(Harvill, £12.95)

The scent of rural India is burning cow-dung. You smell it in the aircraft before the wheels have stopped turning. Nothing brings back the sense of nostalgia so strongly to those who are lucky enough to return.

Geoffrey Moorhouse evokes the same feeling. Both a picture and a story-book it is richly illustrated with unfamiliar coloured plates: alas! none by Edward Lear, who is briefly referred to as "the nonsense rhymester". The writing is clear and filled with anecdote. So much ground is covered that one reaches for one's reference books to look up the details. For those who want *the latest* information there is an unusually good chapter on sources.

The East India Company was formed for trading. Such troops as it had were for the protection of the traders, at least at first. The stakes were high. Either you made a fortune or died of disease, or from eating and drinking too much.

The Nabobs made vast fortunes. Just how vast it is difficult to calculate today. They came back to England with their loot and were much looked down upon by the jealous and less fortunate country gentry. Like oil-magnates today they bought everything in sight, particularly country estates, and the boroughs that went with them. Some, indeed, built exquisite Indian follies like Sezincote in the Cotswolds.

The Nobs who followed the Nabobs, lasted for nearly two hundred years. They included many famous names from other spheres. Generals, Governors-General and Viceroys all had their own independent ideas on how India should be run. For example Lord William Bentinck. He *abolished flogging*, not done away with in the British army for another 50 years. He started the Grand Trunk Road from Calcutta to Delhi. He put the first steam-boat on the Ganges. He prohibited the practice of Suttee (widow-burning) and suppressed Thuggee, the ritual killing of travellers, and he quadrupled the salaries of Indian judges. Bentinck also recruited Thomas Babington Macaulay the great Indian law-giver.

Lord Curzon was probably the most brilliant of them all. Conservationist, exhibitionist, and impresario of his own Durbar, it was his American wife who is credited with the crack about the two ugliest things in India being the poor *old BOR (British Other Rank)* and the water buffalo. I had always understood it to be water-buffaloes and the wives of gunner officers.

Mr Moorhouse mentions all these people and tells his story without heroics or hysterics.

Across the years the *British* and Indians did monstrous and hideous things to each other. In these days massacres occur with daily and distressing regularity, and no one, excepting those on the spot seems to turn a hair.

Once the Nobs had begun to include the ICS and the Military, and their Memsahibs, the social order with its rules of etiquette and precedence relegated the Box-Wallahs to the lower ranks of the hierarchy. The wheel had turned full circle. Even so the Box-Wallahs had their own codes particularly in their clubs.

In his last chapter Mr Moorhouse writes of the things we left behind, and the good we did. We established the world's finest Civil Service, and a first-rate army. Through the Box-Wallahs we founded great industries, originally to our own advantage, of course, and we developed roads and railways. But the most valuable and lasting legacy which we left, and which came out of all our years of conflict was mutual respect and a lasting friendship. Even Eleanor Roosevelt, who had some nasty things to say about our "occupation" of India, acknowledged that. The whole world still wonders at it. A wholly admirable book.

Gontran Goulden

Fiction

God, love, and the professionals of discontent

Cousins
By Monica Furlong
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £7.95)

Porky
By Deborah Moggach
(Cape, £7.95)

From Genesis, the first Book of Moses, to the Alpha and Omega of Revelations, all the law and the prophets boom through Monica Furlong's second novel. They are pretty quiet about it, and so is she; but you will hear them, if you listen.

Not many references to authority Old and New actually show in this strong, unsentimental story of passionately sensual human love, and love divine all loves excelling, and the joys and sufferings which are the lineaments of gratified desire in both. Miss Furlong's easy, conversational prose and unmistakable images manage these mighty matters perfectly well by themselves.

And she is not out to preach; or at any rate, only a little. Set against characters like Hugo, a coldly professional theologian, his wife Rachel, and his twin sister Susie – as a child, unlike other children; as a woman, still a loving child – sideswipe allusions to Christology and Patripassianism apply an unhealthy, almost sickening sheen to modern theological debate. "There's no salvation without the Susies of this world, and yet I do not want to see her."

Their cousin Laura, a professional sculptor, has the first-person narrative. A huge alabaster whale containing a tiny Jonah lies beached – unfinished in love – in the yard of her ramshackle Cambridgeshire studio, where she struggles with commissions. Her messy, absorbing, intuitively creative work, and her messy, adulterous, physically ecstatic affair with Hugo, explore a terrain no more and no less mysterious than any thoughtful, self-critical traveller might wander across, stumbling. "'Do you know what's coming?' 'Not really. You do the work and then you know where you've been.'" There is nothing more spiritual in Laura than there is in you, me, or Monica Furlong.

There is nothing less, either. So readers with eyes to see and ears to hear will be struck by a way, a truth, and a life not impossible of fulfilment, by recognition and choice, for any of us. If a novel about the living Spirit of God seems extraordinary, Miss Furlong's literary skills and vivid qualities of understanding show that "ordinary" and "extraordinary" are indistinguishable, God knows, in any human experience, especially the experience of love. "You'll get there." The point is plain on every page.

Given an inner eye of faith, it is possible to see – or at least to believe – that Deborah Moggach is making the same point, and that her young narrator, Heather Mercer nicknamed *Porky* at school, will get there too. Readers of despairing disposition or dainty susceptibilities will pass by on the other side, shuddering. Miss Moggach's fifth novel is about incest: the outrageous abuse of childhood love and innocence.

It occurs in poverty more spiritual than actual, but actual enough: a family holding together by spit and string, living and partly living in a run-down wooden bungalow off the A4. Aircraft departing and arriving at nearby Heathrow roar in persistent, distancing images of escape throughout the book; crisscrossing a sky dark with helplessness.

Sifting the consequences, sexual and spiritual, of paternal love grotesquely distorted, Miss Moggach spares us little of the terrible, invisible scarring which for Heather – but not for her weak, pitifully stupid Dad – may possibly begin to heal following *a physical* scarring scarcely less terrible: a ruined face, torn by blows provoked from a lover whose cherishing tenderness Heather cannot accept. At 19, it seems visible evidence of her assumed unworthiness ever to be loved at all.

Deborah Moggach achieves her balance by sustaining a first-person register so level in its tone of quiet desperation, so careful to avoid blatant shock, as to hold back the tidal wave of revulsion and pity which threatens, but never quite engulfs the reader directly addressed, person-to-person, by a girl whose clear, intelligent eyes gaze in absurd self-accusation across her dreadful childhood and teenage years.

"You might have got bored ages ago, or disgusted. In fact I don't like some of this story myself. *But* you can always switch on the telly instead." Heather makes no judgments; *Porky* permits none. But there is a lot of real love lying around this story, if you look.

Gay Firth

Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter
By Mario Vargas Llosa
(Faber, £7.95)

It may be powerfully argued that the *most entertaining*, as well as the most rewarding and profound, contemporary fiction is written by those whose approach to the novel is innovative: imaginative and disciplined in structural variation, inventive and versatile in narrative technique, adaptable and adventurous in prose style. Such writers would include Gabriel Garcia Marquez, John Fowles, Gilbert Sorrentino, and Anthony Burgess: writers who believe that the novel can do things which cannot be accomplished in any other form, who are usually trying some new initiative which will extend the art of fiction. Pre-eminent among them, in the opinion of your reviewer, is the Peruvian author Mario Vargas Llosa.

The achievement represented in his five major novels, to date, is staggering in its technical and narrative brilliance and in the power of its impact. In *The City and the Dogs* (originally published in the UK as *The Time of the Hero*), *The Green House*, and *Conversation in the Cathedral* the complexity of the structure reflects the bewildering complexity of influences and events which *befall* the main characters, including hereditary, environmental, historical, topographical, and cultural forces that have shaped them into the people they are. Sr Vargas Llosa does not allow his readers to know more about what is going on than is understood by the characters themselves.

Sr Vargas Llosa once described novelists as "the professionals of discontent", whose function is to disturb and change society. His first three novels live up to this declared purpose: the fourth, however, surprised his admirers. *Pantaleon and the Visitors* (otherwise *Captain Pantaleon and the Special Service*) is a hilarious farce in which a meticulous army officer applies his tenacity and training to the organization of a unit of whores drafted to appease rampaging troops in a remote area. Irony is not far away: Pantaleon is too successful.

Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter is different again. It is a high comedy of great warmth and the inevitable masterly control of *form*. When he was eighteen, Mario Vargas Llosa fell in love with his uncle's wife's sister – a Bolivian divorcee aged thirty-two who, in a ramified family, was accorded the honorary status of "aunt". At the same time, working his way through university *by free-lancing at a radio* station, he met Pedro Comacho, a scriptwriter of punishing energy, voluminous industry, and a capaciously phantasmagoric imagination. In no time the tiny, humourless, bombastic and dedicated Comacho has boosted listening figures enormously and his serials are the talk of Lima.

Meanwhile, Mario makes his first advances to Aunt Julia. Her initial astonishment is followed by a growing warmth tinged with amusement and their love-play gathers momentum while still remaining play. The stories of Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter, told in counterpoint, are interspersed with examples of Comacho's increasingly bizarre art: two separate veins of rich comedy are expertly mined. Comacho's *monstrous creation throws into* relief the generous normality, pleasantly flawed, of Mario, Julia, their family and friends. Of course, when the family learn of the relationship there is immediate scandal and a determination to break it up at all costs. So Mario resolves to marry Aunt Julia.

While he is making frantic arrangements towards this right true end, Comacho, whose scripts have been getting steadily madder and also mixing up plots, names and dramatis personae, kills off all his characters in a sequence of massive radio disasters. And breaks down. The resolutions of both plots occur in the final chapter: the one coolly, affectionately realistic; the other typically ironic.

Apart from the imaginative exuberance of the Comacho inventions, *the novel* is a terrific love-story: tough, tender, funny, tactfully erotic, with moments of bitterness, despair and farce. Its complete lack of sentimentality is remarkable, for it is written, obviously, with love. *Aunt Julia* is more accessible and less ambitious than most of Sr Vargas Llosa's work: but it will evoke as much admiration as it will give pleasure. How will he amaze us next?

Stuart Evans

THE ARTS

Wilfrid Hyde-White (right), master of comedy and horse-player extraordinary, today becomes an octogenarian. **Robert Morley**, his long-time friend and colleague, pays due tribute

Star's orders

My friend Wilfrid Hyde-White is 80 today and still living, I hasten to add lest some should think they are reading his obituary, in Studio City, California. His exact address, if he will forgive me mentioning it, is 3687 Willow Crest. There are not, of course, anything like three thousand other properties on the Crest surrounding his. In Los Angeles there are boulevards with tens of thousands of blocks but they stretch from the desert to the ocean, whereas Willow Crest is (when you discover it, and this is by no means a simple task) merely a cul-de-sac in vague proximity to the Universal Picture Studios.

Long before I first met him, when he was a young actor in the Tom Walls Company at the Aldwych, he was nicknamed "Dasher" White. "Why was that, do you suppose?" I once asked Ben Travers, who was the resident playwright. Ben had forgotten, but, discussing our mutual friend, he opined that Wilfrid was the least curious man he had ever known: "He never really wanted to find out anything, he was cocooned by his upbringing in a country deanery, a 'Barchester Towers' man".

That lack of curiousity does not of course apply to the pedigrees of racehorses, of which he retains an encylopedic knowledge, rivalled only by the late Dorothy Paget. Wilfrid's approach to life is that of royalty visiting a glue factory. He will ascertain, if he has to, how the substance is created and then dismiss it instantly and permanently from his mind.

Dorothy Paget was one of his most devoted fans. She made a point of attending his performances, reserving a box, but seldom arrived to see anything but the last few moments of the play. Once, when Wilfrid had forgone the last line, she did not seek him out in his dressing room, convinced she had mistaken the theatre. Wilfrid missed his customary tryst with her at the Cafe de Paris, but the situation was remedied a few evenings later when they finally met and I was invited to join them. Neither touched their food, so immersed were they in the finer points of horse-breeding. Miss Paget hastened to get the discussion over so that she could attack her lobster while Noël Coward was singing to her. There was nothing apparently she enjoyed more than Coward with Homard Thermidor. At one moment she summoned the head waiter and asked if Mr Coward could postpone his cabaret for half an hour, as she and Wilfrid were so much enjoying themselves.

Mr Coward had no intention of singing that evening, having completed his stint a least a month before. I was of course perfectly aware of the fact but had not wanted to miss a free supper. Miss Paget, hearing the news, was immensely relieved and suggested that whoever was preparing to entertain her should be paid off for the evening and, of course, thanked for his pains. Wilfrid snatched the cheque book from her hand. "Let the fellow sing", he told her. "Probably some of them want to hear him." Miss Paget attacked her lobster. I asked Wilfrid afterwards whether he had not thought her behaviour a bit strange. "Wouldn't you be strange", he retorted, "if you owned Golden Miller?"

It is easy to dismiss my old friend's approach to the theatre as a casual acceptance of the fact that a play was written to enable him to get the laughs and, if it failed so to provide, would have to be rewritten – preferably by himself, often on the first night and always at matinées. I remember a matinée of one of Mr William Douglas Home's pieces, when Wilfrid interpolated an entire scene at a crucial moment of the plot while he pondered what to call a new yearling which had mysteriously come into his possession after the curtain had risen. Fellow members of the cast were finally and in desperation persuaded to suggest names suitable to its breeding, but Wilfrid laughed them to scorn, remarking the only possible solution was Coal Scuttle. Then, enormously over-satisfied with his resourcefulness, he returned to the play: "Where were we?" he demanded. "We must finish this or some of them will be missing their tea."

He came of a generation of actors who often, and sometimes it must be said mistakenly, had no great respect for playwright or director. He and I used to prefer our own interpretations of the mood of the evening. We both stood down-stage and stared moodily out into the auditorium in search of a friendly face and a laugh. On the other hand, there were times when my friend gracefully conceded, and acted the play for all he was worth. He was worth a good deal. Who can forget his performance in *The Reluctant Debutante*, or his dancing with Rex Harrison in the film of *My Fair Lady*, or his wonderfully touching portrayal of the Irish priest in *The Prodigal Daughter*? He appeared successfully as Brittanicus in *Caesar and Cleopatra* and in the tiny part of Euphronius in *Antony and Cleopatra* during the Olivier season at the St James's, but his enthusiasm for performing in Shakespeare never recovered from the shock of being asked to rehearse whilst the Derby was being run.

I once persuaded him to play in one of my own concoctions, *Hippo Dancing*. The play opened in Dublin fairly well but not nearly well enough for Wilfrid: in those days he toured with a Rolls-Royce and a minder. They were both fairly old, but the minder was a former girlfriend and she appeared in my bedroom "the morning after" with an ultimatum. "Unless Wilfrid's part is radically improved by Blackpool, I shall withdraw him." That gave me a week. Wilfrid, of course, never referred to my dilemma.

I gave him the new scene on the plane, he agreed to rehearse, and we played it to stony silence on the Friday. On the way back to our hotel, Wilfrid stopped the motor and got out. He is surely not leaving me like this? I asked myself, but he had alighted to be sick. For the first time I realized how much he cared. We gave the scene a new beginning next night and had no trouble with it thereafter. When the run finished Wilfrid announced his intention of leaving for the States. "I really cannot stand another winter in England with the income tax and Violetta" – here he named his new fiancée. Then he apologised. "That was a very caddish thing to say about the income tax."

He once made a brief but unnecessary appearance in the Bankruptcy Court, where even the Official Receiver fed him the line. "If you cannot tell us how you spent such a large sum in so short a time, perhaps you could tell us what will win the Gold Cup at Ascot this afternoon, since, I understand, you would already like to be on your way?" "Of course, dear fellow", Wilfrid rejoined, and surprisingly named the winner. "Only have a small bet", he cautioned. "We don't want to have to change places, do we?"

Television

Freedom eroded

Franco Died in Bed (Channel 4) and that, say the Spanish Left, betokens trouble. Last night's edition of **20/20 Vision** went on a tour of the battlefront which has now been thrown up between the forces of freedom and repression, as exemplified by the Basque separatists on one side and the Ministry of the Interior on the other.

It might be argued that the Basques, like the Welsh nationalists, are too wild and romantic to represent the common or garden sort of freedom most of us would settle for; it might also be argued that that area is moving towards a situation unpleasantly reminiscent of Ulster.

What this brief essay by Sarah Hargreaves did suggest, however, was that the anti-terrorist measures adopted to deal with ETA are poised to strike at routine civil liberties in the country as a whole. In a recent hunt for an ETA kidnap victim 16,000 houses were searched in one sector of Madrid; from June 1, all changes in occupancy of flats and houses will have to be notified to the police.

The lawyers and journalists interviewed agreed virtually unanimously that Franco's wish to leave the country "well sewn up" had so far come true: with the forces, police, courts and press largely controlled by his ideological heirs, there was little scope for the liberties promised by the new regime to flourish.

Young men told of the treatment they had received at the hands of the police ("They got me to kneel down ... started kicking me in the groin ..."), a lawyer catalogued the incidence of the most popular techniques (plastic bags over heads, electrodes to genitals, sleep deprivation) and the Minister of the Interior, when asked if there was now any police brutality, said "Broadly speaking, no".

We met a journalist who was about to go inside for 18 months because he had written satirically in support of the Basque cause. We met another journalist in exile who had publicly named two leading Rightists subsequently murdered by ETA: the line between journalistic freedom and criminal incitement is in this part of the world not easy to draw.

This thought-provoking programme was, inevitably, implicitly partisan: the 26-minute format precluded any effective account of the views of the country as a whole, which was a pity.

Two years ago today Robert Nesta Marley died in bed. "So who was this 'natural mystic man' with a gentle voice and revolution in his songs?" asked the *Ebony* (BBC2) voice-over. The question was largely rhetorical, and the evidence adduced was mostly familiar, but this film fittingly celebrated him. Friends and relations reminisced movingly, archive clips relayed the atmosphere of the performances, but there was no hint of the extraordinary power of Marley's music at its best.

Michael Church

Concert

Philharmonia/Handley

Festival Hall

If I have a secret vice, it is that I like Rachmaninov's Second Piano Concerto. It is scarcely possible to admit such things in sophisticated circles, and yet each time I hear the piece it sounds well put together, utterly sure of its melancholic, yearning self. As the American critic Paul Rosenfeld wrote, "From it there flows the sadness distilled by all things that are a little useless ... Rachmaninov comes among us like a very charming and amiable ghost".

Perhaps we need a few more ghosts among today's music-makers. At any rate, I could have done with something slightly less tangible than John Lill as soloist in Tuesday's performance: he attacked the pounding chords of the first movement as if dispensing machine-gun fire, and hit the octave melody of the Adagio with a brazen clang, giving each note an equally acid tone. He was certainly sure where he was going all the time (my affection for the work survived playing in a performance where the soloist lost himself hopelessly among the haze of sequences), but when he arrived the noise was not very pleasant.

Vernon Handley, conducting, had a splendid sweep and authority to his beat: now that Sir Adrian Boult is dead, it is good to know that someone will keep alive that magisterial use of a vast baton controlled by only the most delicate of wrist movements. Handley has been consistently underrated; in what he does best he is undemonstrative but highly effective. Catching a record of Elgar's First Symphony in the car the other day, I thought the control of detail and pacing so fine that I felt sure it must be Boult's recording, but it was Handley's.

His *Enigma Variations* in the second half of this concert was similarly firm: I liked the deliberate pace of the opening, markings carefully observed, the gentle, unhurried pace of Variation 3 and the expansive but ever-moving "Nimrod".

Handley is very good at punctuation: in the finale, he made a long, deep pause before launching into figure 70, which gathered together the accumulated tension admirably. But it was noticeable that – apart from outstanding cello solos (also fine in the *William Tell* Overture at the start) and brittle, thwacked timpani – Handley did not draw especially good playing from the Philharmonia. There were some ragged string entries, and the performance generally lacked that electric charge which distinguishes the great from the good.

Nicholas Kenyon

Cinema

David Robinson reports from the Cannes Festival

Ladies of pleasure

Cannes is turning out to be an actress's festival this year. I have already written, from the film's Budapest première, about the extraordinary playing of Mari Torocsik and Lili Monori as the peasant mother and daughter in Zsolt Kezdi-Kovacs's *Forbidden Relations*. The film, which treats with rare warmth and compassion the problems of a remote rural community in which a brother and sister persistently live as man and wife and loving parents, is due to open in London soon.

Then we have seen Isabelle Adjani in *L'Eté meurtrier*, directed by Jean Becker, son of Jacques Becker, one of the great French directors of the Forties and Fifties. As it rambles on its somewhat tedious way, from bucolic comedy to psychological case history and finally to murder melodrama, it is all too evident that the film has been adapted – and not adapted enough – from a novel. (The original author, Sebastian Japoisot, in fact wrote the screenplay.)

But Adjani, even though she would have benefited from a directorial curb sometimes, displays quite unexpected range as the heroine – the village slut whose shameless cheek conceals a depth of old psychological injuries. As she says, "It's easier to hide my sadness than my ass".

If Adjani is an overdoer, Tess Harper, who makes her screen debut in Bruce Beresford's first American picture, *Tender Mercies*, is an effective under-player. She is more than good enough to provide Robert Duvall with an equal and complementary partner, even while Duvall proves again what a remarkable actor he is, this time in a role wholly unlike the martinet father in *The Great Santini*.

Duvall plays a world-worn Country-and-Western singer who has kicked the habits both of booze and ambition. Tess Harper is a young widow with a small son and a tumbledown motel in the Texan desert. The past continues to intrude, but somehow these two make a future together.

There is hardly anything to the film besides the performances, and the Australian director's response to a dusty little corner of Texas. These apart, it is as small a slice of life as ever made a 90-minute film.

Catherine Deneuve and Susan Sarandon have a rough-and-tumble love scene in a British film, *The Hunger*, though it ends in tears since Deneuve is a vampire and only interested in Sarandon's blood.

Tony Scott's first feature is as chic as a deoderant commercial and not much more substantial. The story is a load of mystic mumbo-jumbo about ancient Egyptian magic, vampirism, reincarnation, accelerated ageing and disintegrating zombies; but the flashy images, flashier cutting and general adolescent solemnity are supposed to take your mind off that.

David Bowie co-stars, but there is not much for the fans, since he disappears behind octogenarian make-up after the first reel or so and is soon popped into a coffin. Busy Bowie will be seen again in Cannes, however, as the star of Nagisa Oshima's *Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence*.

Theatre

Noble attempt to shut the gates of war

The Trojan War Will Not Take Place

Lyttelton

If it was the National Theatre that halted Giraudoux's British career dead in its tracks with the ill-fated 1960s' production of *Amphitryon 38*, the same organization now makes amends with Harold Pinter's resonant revival of the play which first made Giraudoux's British reputation.

As *Tiger at the Gates* (Christopher Fry's first title for *La Guerre de Troie n'aura pas lieu*) the 1955 Apollo production struck Kenneth Tynan as "the final comment on the superfluity of war" and won over the London public in spite of a dramatic technique based on the tirade, non-psychological characterization, a preference for debate rather than action and the aloof contemplation of great events from long range. These, and the other hitherto resisted elements of French classical dramaturgy, suddenly became acceptable to the West End.



Brewster Mason: an imposingly feeble Priam

One reason is that Giraudoux was committed to comedy (almost, it seems, as a moral obligation) and that his treatment of the Helen affair had a passing resemblance to Shaw. More to the point, he had something to say about the nature of war which crossed the cultural boundaries of post-1945 Europe as easily as I expect it to do again in these pre-nuclear times.

In brief, Giraudoux the former diplomat viewed the conflict of nations as a celestially arranged prize fight, with the combatants carefully dieted and exercised to peak condition and then let loose to destroy each other for the delight of the Olympian ringside observers.

The Trojan War expresses no hope that this state of affairs can ever be altered. What it does do is expose the operation of fate in the hope that politicians, priests, intellectuals and the public at large will be less taken in by the sanctions that have led the nations of history sleep-walking into a trap prepared by the powers above.

For this reason Giraudoux's temperamental coldness, and his choice of a location removed from the direct sphere of action, fits perfectly with the content and purpose of the work. Rewriting Homeric legend, he brings Hector back from one ruinously victorious campaign determined to close the gates of war for ever.

In this he almost succeeds. He persuades Paris to release Helen; he outsmarts the bellicose senator-poet Demokos and runs rings around the Trojan intelligentsia. It is one comic triumph after another, except where he confronts the unyieldingly pliable Helen – a mirror figure who reflects the desires of all who gaze on her – and concludes that "with each victory the prize escapes me".

And sure enough, after his conference with Ulysses and the Greek's decision to pit his cunning against fate instead of a mortal enemy, the pact is broken by a drunken accident and war is declared.

The heart of the play is in this great scene and in Hector's anti-Periclean oration to the dead, where he describes war as "the most sordid and hypocritical way of making all men equal". This is Giraudoux speaking; and, although Martin Jarvis cuts a less than heroic figure (sometimes he even suggests Walter Mitty at the Court of King Priam), the authority bursts through at moments such as these. In between the peaks, where author and character merge, there remain substantial tracts of diagrammatic dialogue where the comedy, unsupported by realistic portraiture, is uphill work.

The opening scenes, with Cassandra (a governessy Julie Legrand) and Andromache (Marjorie Bland) swapping gloomy and hopeful comment on the future, awaken a dread of a stiff neo-classic evening ahead. Pinter fortunately keeps his nerve and adds no stylistically alien animation, and his author is not long in repaying him. You accept the style for what it is, and human voices begin resounding through the marble surfaces.

Most obviously this happens in the case of Nicola Pagett's Helen, delicate as an eyelid and amazingly conveying the essence of that supposedly unplayable demi-goddess: of becoming the secret fantasy of all who set eyes on her. Other gradually enriching performances come from Annette Crosbie's belligerently pacificist Hecuba and Brewster Mason's imposingly feeble Priam. A certain sense of cost-cutting prevails over Eileen Diss's monumental two-purpose set; but at this address that is no bad thing.

Irving Wardle

Precious Remnants

Bridge Lane, Battersea

Mildly expostulating "Now look, gentlemen" to unseen torturers in malodorous tropical suits, a big, gentle Englishman is slung into a prison cell without warning for weeks of solitary confinement.

His ruddy spade beard, proclaiming good Victorian values, suggests W. G. Grace played by Nicol Williamson. Labelled "Kit Store", his prison surrounds him with familiar paraphernalia: cricket balls and stumps, pads from which he can make a bed on the floor, and a box which he finds as uncomfortable when used for a pillow as when worn in its intended place.

Nicholas Ellenbogen's one-man play is deceptively restrained, in both his writing and performance, with few howls of pain, and desperate tears only once as the innocent film actor he portrays returns from unintelligible interrogations with bruised kidneys and a broken hand.

Into his fantasies, invented to pass time, he gradually regresses: a school cricket match where he plays a 17-year-old earl, the unsuspected escapades of the aged Miss Morag McNair who taught him nature studies, a court martial under fearsome General Blood for starring, while an officer and a gentleman, in a film of fatuous pornography called *The Lily of Jerusalem*.

Interrupted at intervals by reality as his sufferings increase, these episodes arise, with unobtrusive subtlety, from the furniture to hand (a vaulting-horse with a golf club stuck in it becomes a camel), the occasional nightmarish awareness of what has actually happened and sunny recall of a secure colonial past which tells its own connected tale about that society. They are beautifully written, endearing and funny until a shyly lubricious account of the Jerusalem Lilies (they needed 11 lovelies to make the film) and how their improbable athletics got out of hand.

But Mr Ellenbogen's own performance never ceases to be humorously lovable and spontaneous while showing total technical assurance as imaginary truncheons assail him from above and fleas from below. It implicitly condemns all the cells of horror in black and white Africa, and impressed me at every moment that, for all its protagonist's filming, it is live theatre, as live as theatre can be.

Anthony Masters

هكذا من الإعلان

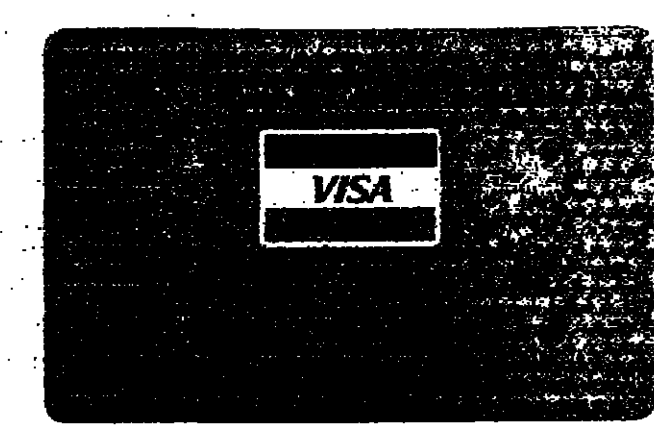
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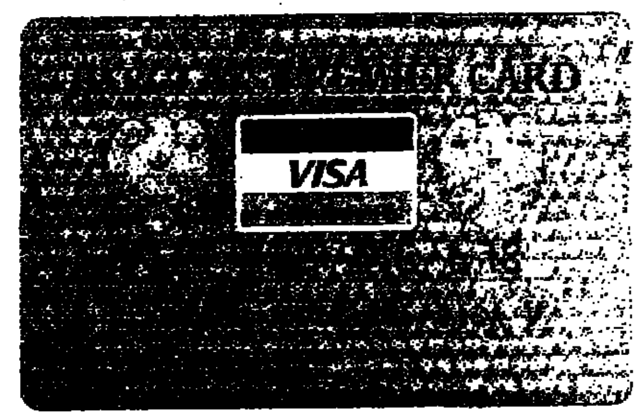
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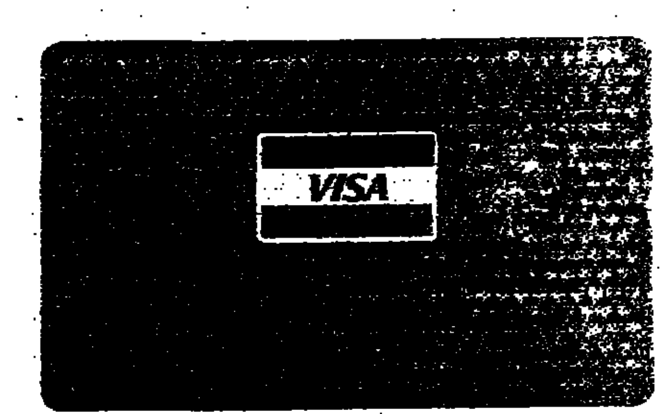
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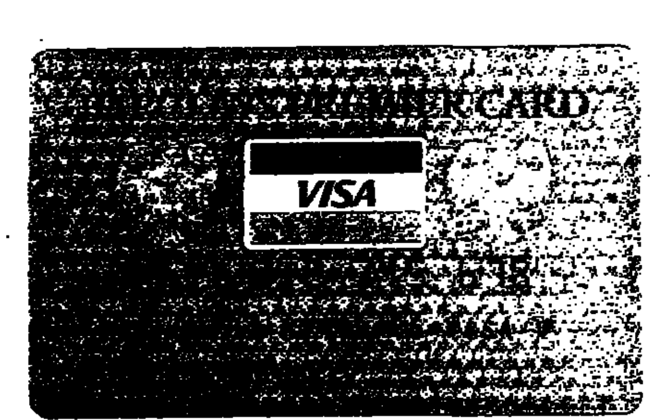
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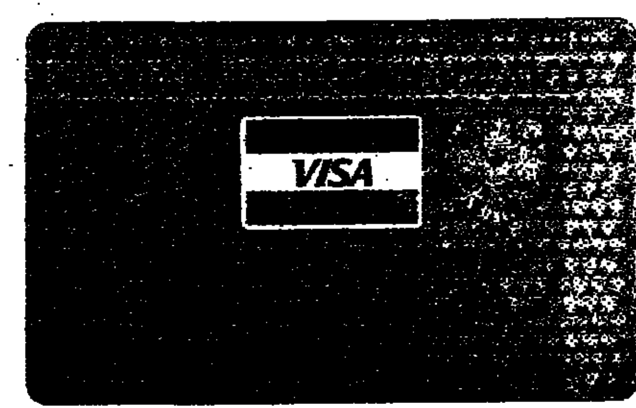
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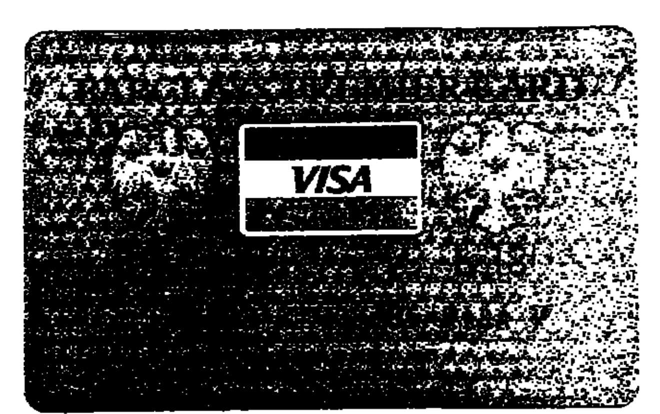
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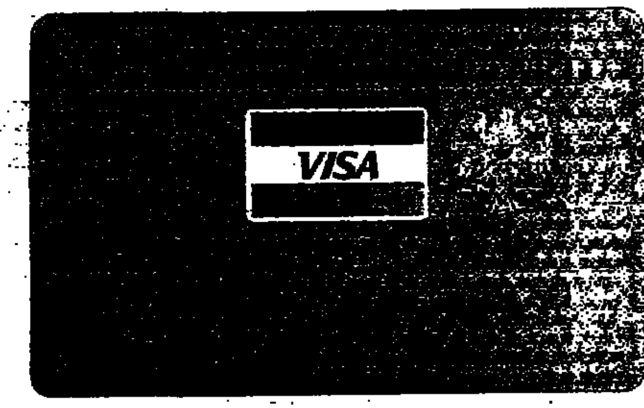
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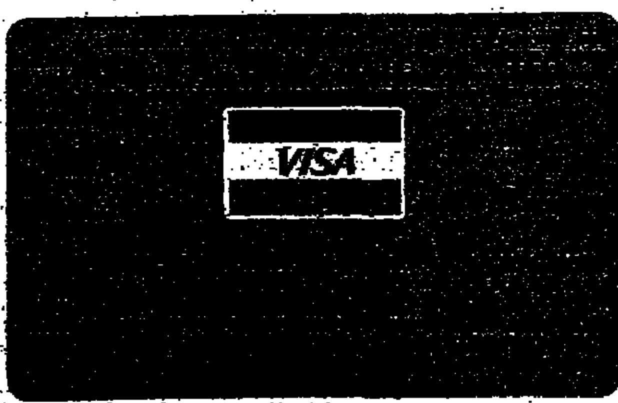
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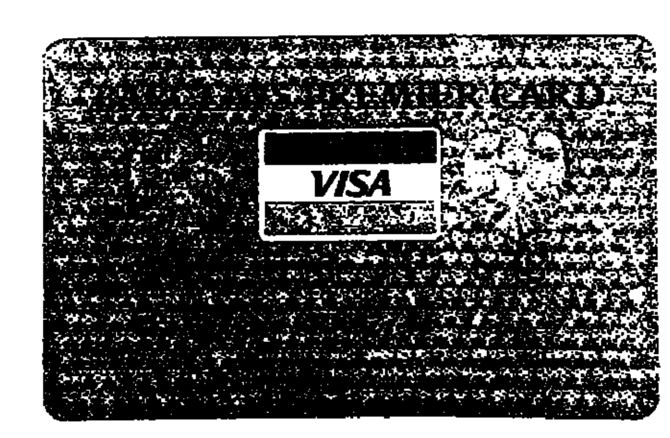
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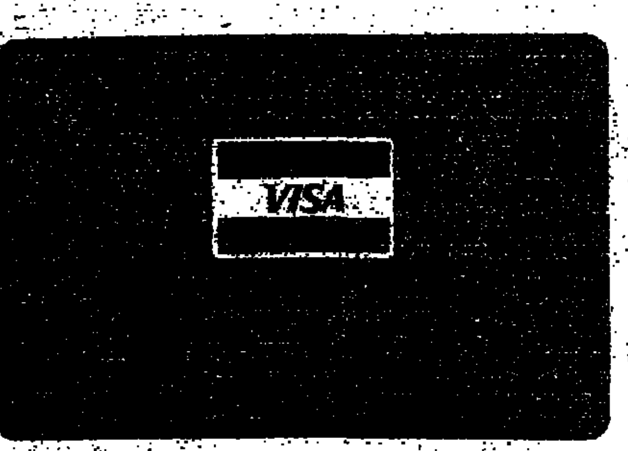
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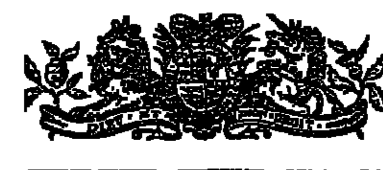
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Only the few people earning £20,000 or more will ever have one.



THE TIMES DIARY

Monopoly money

Waddingtons, the original Monopolizers, are looking for owners of the first game they put on the market, an initially unsuccessful pastime called Lexicon. Now 50 years old, the game involved making words with cards around a number of whist and bridge formats. Holders of first issue models will have to prove the veracity of their claims by producing the accompanying 65-page rule book. Games in good condition could be worth as much as £20, and the company is offering a collection of its more recent games in payment. One of these is called My Word, symptomatic of our times. it only runs to four-letter words.

Lost horizons

This week's *Economist* carries a report, appositely headlined "Done-a-bunker Hunt", about Keith Hunt, "who disappeared from Britain last month leaving debts estimated at £18m". It mentions his now wound-up companies, including one called Futures Index. Yet just six pages further on there is a half-page advertisement for that same Futures Index inviting *Economist* readers to "Widen your Financial Horizons." "The advertisement had been booked but was officially stopped by the advertisers", *The Economist's* advertising department said yesterday. "It just slipped through. We shall not be charging them for it." Keith Hunt, wherever you are, that at least is one little bit of money you do not owe.

Stop press

British journalists visiting Sweden as guests of the Foreign Ministry last week had nearly an hour with Olof Palme, the Prime Minister; 45 minutes each with the foreign and defence ministers, in mid-submarine crisis; and 45 minutes with the King and Queen, for which they had the gall to be 10 minutes late. Swedish journalists on a reciprocal visit hosted by the Central Office of Information were offered a meeting with Lord Belstead, a trip to Parliament and a tour of redevelopment sites in Liverpool. With telephone lines between London and Stockholm sizzling, Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, found he could spare them 15 minutes. One of the Swedes said afterwards: "We were very pleased they kept our evenings free."

● *Times are hard but I did not expect Rank Xerox to be reduced to naturism. A letter from the company apologizing for more than five months' delay in paying £300 for a trade-in ends: "Please bare with us for a little longer".*

Quid pro quo

Sunday Telegraph readers are wasting their money and should definitely switch to the *News of the World*. My proof for this confident assertion is two advertisements for *The Ordnance Survey Atlas of Great Britain* placed by the Literary Guild. One, in this week's *Telegraph Sunday Magazine*, offered the book for £1 plus 95p post and packing. The other, in the same day's *Sunday* with the *News of the World*, advertised the same book for 50p and with only 45p to add for post and packing. Worse still, the promise is for 40 pages of new maps in the 50p offer, mysteriously shorn to 35 at twice the price. The choice is clear, and our thanks go to the PHScot who spotted the difference.

Dim view

Andrew Faulds, thespian MP for Warley East, suspects London Transport are out to rob us all. Passing through Paddington, he bought a 40p underground ticket from a machine marked: "This machine accepts 5p, 10p, 20p and 50p coins." He put in 50p, and got a ticket, but no change. When he protested at the booking office, another but dimly lit sign was pointed out to him: "Exact fare only to obtain ticket." "I find the introduction of this new system totally deceptive and dishonest," blusters Faulds, "and I trust that the management will immediately put right this public theft of passengers' monies."

The truth game

Do not believe that television personalities are essentially shallow. Hilary Lawson, the former deputy chief executive of ailing TV-am who left soon after Angela Rippon and Anna Ford, is now writing a book on philosophy. The subject is reflexivity, which he says is "the problem that arises when you want to say there is no truth which means there is truth". Experience at Camden Lock no doubt provides an empirical advantage.



Eight Cumbrians will be spending many of their nights in freezer centres between now and next March, with the blessing of Willie Whitelaw. Sleeping in temperatures as low as -40° centigrade, they are preparing to become the first Britons to climb Everest via the West Ridge route from China, and the Home Secretary, MP for Penrith and the Border, is their patron. The climbers, who range in age from 30 to 43, will, if successful, also be the first from this country to conquer the peak without oxygen supplies. During their training on the Lakeland peaks, they could do worse than nip over to Wigton for a word with Everest veteran, Chris Bonington.

PHS

Can the EEC ever be a fair deal?

Mrs Thatcher has no reason to be defensive in the coming election about her handling of the EEC. She has managed to cut Britain's Euro-bill by three quarters between the end of 1979 and the start of 1983. That is a much bigger improvement than Britain achieved in the Wilson renegotiation of 1974-75.

The cut has been achieved because of Mrs Thatcher's aggressive tactics, notably at the Dublin summit in 1979; Lord Carrington's good sense in persuading her to accept a deal she disliked in May 1980; and a remarkable fluke. The fluke was that, in 1981 and 1982, EEC farm spending increased far more slowly than anybody expected.

However, as Mrs Thatcher is likely to discover if she attends next month's EEC summit in Stuttgart, her run of luck seems to be at an end. She appears to think that the summit will approve a cut of some two thirds in Britain's contribution to the budget for 1983. That is most unlikely. The other member states resent the fact that the rebates paid to Britain in the past three years have reduced its EEC bill by 75 per cent, instead of the cut of two thirds that the May 1980 deal was designed to produce. So, they argue, the repayment to Britain in 1983 should be correspondingly smaller.

In any case there is little disposition to be generous to Britain. The EEC is fast running out of cash (mainly because farm spending is out of control again, rising by 35 per cent in the past 12 months). And the French and Germans are increasingly anxious about the cost of letting Spain and Portugal into the club.

The danger is that this row will eclipse a far more important issue for Britain: the future shape of the Community's budget. Since Britain joined the EEC, it has been a net payer to Brussels, mainly because agriculture has continued to absorb the bulk of EEC spending. As a net food importer, Britain loses twice over: because British food imports are overpriced and because Britain pays more into the farm budget than British farmers get back.

The ECC commission has now proposed a series of financial reforms designed, in part, to remedy this inbalance. Its main suggestions are that:

● The present ceiling on the EEC's revenue raised from VAT should be lifted. This would stop the Community going broke and would enable it to pay for new policies, for example to cut youth unemployment. The ceiling would go up to 1,4 per cent in the first stage.

● A slice of these VAT payments should be raised at a varying rate calculated to make rich countries

> 'There is little disposition to be generous to Britain'

with lots of farmers pay more. Denmark and France, for example, would pay extra and Britain would pay less. This variable slice would finance all farm spending over and above the amount equivalent to a third of the total EEC budget.

● Future increases in VAT should be approved by the 10 member governments and by a three-fifths majority in the European Parliament – but *not*, as now, by national parliament. This suggestion stands no chance of being accepted; and is an attempt to appease the European Parliament (which is seriously thinking of sacking the whole EEC commission later this year.

The commission's tax proposals are clearly not ideal. The most logical way to finance the EEC budget, as Sir Geoffrey Howe argued in his Hague speech two years ago, is to tax each country purely according to its relative wealth. This would be simpler and fairer than the complex commission plan. The trouble is that it would involve a revolution in the EEC's present tax system, which was constructed with great difficulty in the late 1960s. Other member states would not wear that.

The commission's proposals represent a reasonable second-best solution. But they have two weaknesses. First, the commission has not developed many convincing ideas for "new policies" on which to spend the extra income.

Already several existing EEC policies, such as the regional policy, are not genuine policies but merely names for inefficient attempts to redistribute cash between countries to make up for the inequitable incidence of the farm policy. There are only a few areas – of which overseas aid is one – where there is a clear economy of scale in having an EEC policy rather than 10 national policies (the cost of the Community's aid programme, in bureaucrats employed per dollar disbursed, is significantly lower than that of national aid programmes).

Second, the commission has not devised an effective way to halt the growth of farm spending. Although its proposals would make gainers from farm spending pay more for it; this would not necessarily mean that the spending would be cut–especially since farm ministers have shown little regard in the past for the impact of their decisions on national budgets. Witness Mr Peter Walker's policy over the past four years of regularly putting the interests of British farmers above those of British taxpayers (the most scandalous aspect of the Thatcher government's EEC policy).

Besides, even if the commission's tax proposals were accepted, Britain's net budget bill would be cut by less than half (and its plans to spend more in Britain is only a hope). This is not likely to be acceptable to any British government.

The odds are, therefore, that British ministers will turn their eyes to an idea now being considered in Paris and Bonn: *"écrêtement des soldes"*–the smoothing out of the balances. Under this scheme, a ceiling would be set to the amount by which any country could profit or lose from the EEC budget. Thus, in practice, each country would contribute roughly as much as it got out of the budget.

This would be simple to operate, and could be introduced without raising the level of VAT. It would also have the advantage that it would be easier to develop sensible EEC policies, since individual countries would look at new proposals on their merits and not on the basis of what national profit or loss might result from them.

The major snag is that it would be very difficult for the EEC then to develop any policies explicity designed to redistribute money from rich countries to poor ones. Italy, Ireland and Greece—and, in the future, Spain and Portugal—would lose heavily from such a change. However, *écrêtement* would serve the interests of France, Britain and Germany. And as they are the three most powerful countries in the EEC, and the only three countries likely to be net payers under the present system, the odds are that they will get their way.

Stephen Milligan

The author is European editor of The Economist.

Ronald Butt

Labour's great unmentionable

The unions' attack on the last Labour government was the principal cause of Mr James Callaghan's downfall. But Labour still needs some sort of policy because it rejects the anti-inflationary discipline that enables Mrs Thatcher to do without one. Labour says that Mrs Thatcher has a pay policy in the shape of unemployment and the fear of it. It is, Labour implies, only because there are now too many people chasing too few jobs that unions have stopped being unreasonable about pay.

This is only half the truth. For the other half we must ask why the workers were unreasonable before Mrs Thatcher's time, thus provoking the attempted pay restraints which they then resisted. The answer is clear. In those days money was easy come, easy go. Its value was impermanent and evanescent.

So, as governments inflated and depreciated the value of money, unions increased their demands to make good lost purchasing power, which caused the currency to depreciate even faster. If, today, unions are more reasonable it is not simply for fear of unemployment but because the fall in inflation diminishes the urge to make unreasonable demands.

Labour's policies, however, are highly inflationary. There would be a huge increase of at least £10,000m in government spending, £6,000m of it borrowed from the pension funds and other institutions, supposedly by agreement, in a dash for expansion.

To prevent money hurtling out of Britain in consequence, exchange controls would be imposed. To prevent imports being sucked into Britain by easy money, there would be tariffs and import quotas. But the "siege economy" against which Mr Denis Healey unavailingly warns his party would not be enough.

Labour also needs a pay policy, which it has lacked since Mr Callaghan's defeat. The left bitterly resists the idea in the name of free collective bargaining. Various policy documents have therefore skirted around the subject. Mr Peter Shore's Programme for Recovery admitted that there was "no gainsaying the fact of inflationary pressures" arising from its expansion policies, and conceded that it would therefore be necessary to "contain the costs which prompt the increase in prices". Since it was admitted that two-thirds of total costs consisted of wage and salary costs, increases in which could not "all" be absorbed in the remaining one-third of costs, the implication was clear. There would have to be some sort of pay restraint. But how?

The only answer we have is that the annual "national economic assessment" (NEA) which Labour wants to be agreed between government, unions and management would cover profits, prices, earnings, investments and social benefits. Producing this would take six to nine months, and including preparation and adjustments would be a year-long process. But no hint has been given in any document of how a Labour government would cope without any kind of wage restraint in its first year while awaiting the agreed plan, or on how the plan for wages would be inforced in practice.

Mr Healey is sensitive to the problem. On Sunday, after an election meeting of union and Labour leaders, he came on television to be interviewed on *Face the Press*, and tried to present the restoration of an incomes policy as the keystone of Labour economic policy. "Every government has finished up with one produced hugger-mugger in a crisis," he said. Labour had to avoid that. "We shall have to carry out this assessment within weeks of winning the next election . . . (and) have that agreement in place when next year's pay round begins at the end of August . . . We cannot afford to dodge the issue for 12 months . . ."

Mr Healey preferred to speak of the "assessment" rather than of the now almost indecent "incomes policy" but what he meant was clear. Labour desperately needs to devise some means of controlling pay by agreement quickly. But by admitting this, he has created even more questions than existed before.

How can an elaborate process intended to cover so much more than pay (indeed, every aspect of economic activity) and designed to take from nine to 12 months, be completed in only two? If it is only the pay element that is to be completed in two months with or without decisions on prices, investments and social benefits – but without a full assessment of the economy, what is the diference between this and the old prices and incomes policy?

How would the NEA's allocation of resources between profits, pay, investments and benefits be enforced on the unions (whether in two or nine months) if they did not agree to the Government's wishes and pressed for higher wages to make good purchasing power lost by renewed inflation?

Last week, Mr Clive Jenkins reasured his ASTMS union conference against fears of a backdoor incomes policy. The NEA, he said, meant "no statutes, no norms, no curbs."

I can see that it could mean no statutes. It might mean no specific norms overall. But I cannot see how it means no curbs since an order of priorities must mean curbs for some so as to allow rises for others.

Mr Healey and Mr Shore know that their inflationary policies require the agreed control of incomes if they are to stand a chance of avoiding high interest rates, a new appeal to the IMF or a totally controlled socialist state. They do not know how to get it.

The left does not want an incomes policy. It does not mind if the government inflates until the social bubble bursts, for it hopes that out of the ensuing upheaval, the fully socialist state will be born when everything including everyone's pay will be controlled from the centre.

If the democratic socialists like Mr Healey knew how to get an incomes policy to avoid this they would say so in plain language. Their language is obscure because they do not know. They can offer only what was regurgitated last time. In this as in so much there are two Labour Parties and two Labour policies. The voter must decide for himself which (if either) he wants and which he thinks he would get if Labour were given power. Mr Healey cannot tell him.

Eighty-two years after the first edition, the great dictionary's fourth appears

Words that maketh the family Chambers



David Liddle

Tony Chambers, great-great-grandson of one of the founding brothers, and on his left Betty Kirkpatrick, the dictionary's editor, with some of their staff.

Edinburgh has two streets named after the union of Scotland and England – the thistle and the rose. There's a building in Thistle Street where, between the mounted calligraphy of Sir Walter Scott and the first dictionary definition of "zero option", you can find more than 160 years of publishing history.

The methods and the memorabilia of the house of Chambers – and the present generation of a modest dynasty – are still rooted in the heart of the capital, survivors of that golden age of Edinburgh publishing which nurtured figures like William Creech, Archibald Constable, William Blackwood and the brothers William and Robert Chambers.

W. and R. Chambers brothers' most celebrated product, *Chambers Twentieth Century Dictionary*, goes into its fourth edition today. Dictionaries gestate and mutate slowly, although the postwar years and the hectic evolution of postwar language have accelerated the process. The first edition appeared in 1901 and the next two in 1952 and 1972, with a supplement in 1977. But Chambers's interest in lexicology dates back to 1868, when they published a small etymological dictionary.

They also produced an "English dictionary" in 1898 which George Bernard Shaw used with enthusiasm. "PS", he writes in a letter to the firm. "My Chambers's dictionary (my favourite of half a dozen) is dated 1898. In there a later edition – unspoiled?" The question suggests more than polite interest. He was probably hoping for a free copy.

In nearly two centuries W. and R. Chambers have explored most of the available avenues of publishing – general fiction, children's books, educational books and periodicals. They still produce a small educational list, but the fortunes of the family and the future of the firm are now invested in their reference books, of which *Chambers Twentieth Century* is the flagship. Tony Chambers, the company's chairman and managing director, says: "It helps to have a name which is also a trade mark."

It helps so much that on the Indian sub-continent, where *Chambers Twentieth Century Dictionary* is the bible of self-improvers, he was waved through the Bangladesh customs on the power of his name alone.

> An early history of the company has a hint of Thatcherian rhetoric

His son, Michael, is also in publishing, although not yet with Chambers. Mr Chambers hopes he will join the company soon.

An uninterrupted line of Chambers men has run the business since Robert, a passionate bibliophile, opened a small bookshop in Leith Walk at the age of 16. He was joined by William, a bookseller's apprentice, and within a few years they had started to print books as well as sell them. But their early life was characterized by the kind of crushing hardship which was more inclined to break spirits than inspire enterprise.

In the rented one-room shop, Robert lived mainly on tea. "For three or four years of that time," he wrote, "I never got a regular dinner except on Sundays." When he was joined by William, the two of them slept on the floor of the shop with piles of books for pillows.

An early history of the company has a hint of Thatcherian rhetoric in its description of the brothers' rise from rags to riches: "It has often happened in Scotland that poor boys have become famous men, and it will often happen again, but when one considers these boys – William became an LlD of Edinburgh University, Robert of St Andrews; Robert was Master of the Merchant Company of Edinburgh; William was twice Lord Provost, and after twice refusing a knighthood was later persuaded to accept a baronetcy, the conferring of which was unfortunately prevented by his untimely death, untimely in that it happened just before the reopening of St Giles' Cathedral, which he had so magnificently restored – when one considers the early privations and the ultimate triumph of sterling worth and character, the story of William and Robert seems more like a fairytale than most stories of the kind."

Today Tony Chambers, the great-great-grandson of Robert (who was himself a writer of distinction and friend of Lamb, Carlisle, de Quincey, Scott and Browning) lives in the affluent Edinburgh suburb of Barnton and, at 65, is an expert and active skier. He is also enough of a businessman to recognize that fairy tales don't have much of a market during recessions and he has "rationalized and consolidated just in time".

The Chambers operation has been trimmed of general fiction and children's books and the company, which does its own warehousing and distribution, now employs about 30 people. There are six editorial staff, all focused on the reference books. Chambers's energetic dictionary editor, Betty Kirkpatrick, also "does the educational books when I can find the time".

The assistant editors work in an amiable collective in a large, bright room where, for diversion, they can gaze into the bedrooms of the George Hotel or study the social history of the graffiti on the round table. The surface of this old table has been used both as drawing board and autograph book by generations of Chambers women, children and visitors. Jacobus Chambers left a flag and a portrait of Britannia in 1895. William Chambers Junior etched an Australian steamer in 1863. Tucky Chambers's mark was a harp and the writer Charles McKay added a nightingale.

Loyalties in the company are strong, fed by its sense of history and continuity of its family involvement. Betty Kirkpatrick, who joined in 1966, is now also a director. Of the assistant editors, Catherine Schwarz's connexion goes back 30 years and Rachel Sherrard has been working for them "on and off since 1969". Anne Seaton's appointment in 1976 is recent by Chambers's standards and the two young men, George Davidson and John Simpson, have a mere nine years' service between them.

> Some Scrabble players can tell you which page lists a certain word

How do you find new words for a dictionary? Methods range from the charmingly informal, to the painstaking. There is, of course, a hot-line between Chambers and the academic world and it is not unusual for an editor to spend a whole day tracking down the definition of one word. The words themselves are picked up by the vigilance of the editors through the variety of their reading material. "Magazines like *Cosmopolitan* are useful." Betty Kirkpatrick says. "Where else would you get to know about 'toxic shock syndrome'?"

The Times is read daily by everyone, "although we take it in turns to read the *New Scientist*". Each editor has a pet subject. Anne Seaton is acknowledged as the classics expert and George Davidson is strong on linguistics and phonetics. John Simpson lays claim to sport and jazz, Catherine Schwarthz to music and Rachel Sherrard, wife of a minister, knows a lot about religion.

Betty Kirkpatrick, married to a doctor, had ready access to the language of medicine, but her own strength is an eclectic and encyclopaedic mind: "You have to turn yourself into a kind of sponge". She has, however, given up doing crosswords and is beginning to feel oppressed by Scrabble. Chambers is the reference dictionary for the National Scrabble Championship and National Scrabble Club Tournament, which she judges. Her knowledge of her own dictionary, she says, is poor thing beside the awesome memories of Scrabble players.

"Some of them can actually tell you which page lists a certain word. They read bits of the dictionary every night, although not necessarily for the meanings. Their object is to know the word, not the definition."

Chambers is as proud of its idiosyncrasies as it is of its statistics. It contains more language references and more definitions than any other single-volume dictionary, including its main competitor, the *Concise Oxford*, and the new edition, of course makes it more up to date. "Ra-ra skirt, multilateralist, total allergy syndrome, kidology" and "yomp" are among their exclusive entries.

Dictionary watchers are particularly attached to Chambers's "humorous definitions" and howl with protest in the letters' columns of newspapers if any of their favourites disappear. By public demand "eclair" ("long in shape but short in duration") "perpetrate", "pict" and "picture-storer" (look them up) have been restored for 1983, and "man-eater" has been added: "A woman given to chasing, catching and devouring men."

Julie Davidson

Ross Davies

In praise of the sweet, lovable cockroach

In a world which seems to have served notice to quit upon nearly every animal from the aardvark to the zorbil, inclusive, it should be more heartening than it somehow is that *dictyoptera* scuttle about this country as never before. And yet, despite the great variety, adaptiveness and industry of the breed, still the heart does not sing.

Run, climb, fly though they may, it has to be said of the Brown-Banded as of the Smoky-Brown (to name but two of the six species) that, as wildlife goes, cockroaches lack oomph. They have now even been banned from Brooks's Club.

The cockroach is a single-minded creature, but to no avail. Still no prime time is offered to it by Anglia TV or the BBC Natural History Unit. Yet having shuddered through a radio programme about the loving kindness of the wolf and gagged through a television account of how puff adders are good for me, I say it is not a good enough excuse for the neglect of cockroaches on the ground that they're bad for you.

Let me make it quite clear that I have no money riding on cockroaches. I have yet to clap eyes on a cockroach, alive or dead. But I have a friend who has seen lots. I am moved to these reflections on the ignominy of the cockroach solely because I have just put down an extremely putdownable booklet on this and other conservation also-rans.

The booklet is *An A-Z of Household Pests*, at 60p, something of a bargain. On the one hand, not since the days of books like *Along the Limpopo With a Ferret* has there been much in the way of reading matter about creatures one may – or should, kill. On the other, the booklet is just the right size for swatting smaller game, although personally I would hesitate to take on a cockroach with it. My friend who has seen lots, an old Africa hand, favours a swift flip-flop. Not much use with puff adders, though.

The A-Z is published by the British Pest Control Association which, like any white hunter, treats its quarry with respect. "Control of cockroaches", the booklet says, "is seldom easy".

Yet it is all too easy to overlook merit in disagreeable forms of wildlife, and in the case of cockroaches, spectacularly so. This will explain why I took up their case with the pest controllers' president, Miss Frances McKim. Was there, I asked her, more to cockroaches than food poisoning? Miss McKim, I have to say, failed neither me nor them.

Here is a lady who has chased cockroaches around New York bathrooms and raced cockroaches down Bourbon Street. *Dictyoptera*, she was able to tell me, have one hitherto-unremarked property. They embody old national enmities.

Of what we British know as the German Cockroach, Miss McKim said: "In Germany, they're not called German Cockroaches but Russian Cockroaches, and I'm sure that in Russia they're called something else."

German, presumably, at least until 1945, followed by compulsory renaming to American and then Chinese. And with President Reagan said to be limbering up for a second term, and a new broom in the Kremlin, I wouldn't be surprised if even now Mr Andropov weren't signing a decree ordering the cockroaches to become American again. Which might cause comment in this country, because we already have an American Cockroach. "They're bigger and better," says Miss McKim.

All this geopoliticking may make cockroaches more controversial, but I doubt whether it would also render them more lovable. Far from it. The A-Z reveals that apart from being "unable to survive out of doors in the British climate," the bugs can not only survive but thrive indoors in many, many places. In almost any large, centrally heated building, in fact. And since there are so many, many more of these, it follows there are so many, many more . . . well, you get the drift. The future of the cockroach is assured.

Now the cockroach is never going to dethrone the Smurf or the Womble in the nation's affections, but it would help if this versatile insect were to make that one impossible leap and live *al fresco*. Even the puff adder and the wolf manage to be both wholesome and loathsome, because at least they know their place.

Even in these ecological times and in this pet-loving country, how many conservationists would still speak kindly of the aardvark or the zorbil if herds of them, like cockroaches, were wont to gather in a chap's club?

هكذا من الاصل



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ULTIMATE THINGS

It is a good moment, at the start of a general election campaign to be reminded by Alexander Solzhenitsyn – speaking moreover in London – what happens to a society when men have forgotten God. Though he was speaking about the evils of the Soviet system, he had harsh words to say about the decline of the West. He has noticed its unawareness of spiritual values, and its empty pews. He is astonished at the bias of the World Council of Churches who promote revolutionary movements in the Third World while remaining blind and deaf to the persecution of religion which is carried out relentlessly in the Soviet Union. For Dr Billy Graham, his predecessor in receipt of the Templeton Prize, who went to Moscow and said that he had noticed no persecution of religion, he merely asked for God to be the judge.

Fashionable opinion might be tempted to dismiss Solzhenitsyn as an embittered exile whose religious enthusiasm, born under Soviet oppression, is inappropriate for the liberal societies in the West. Fashionable opinion, as so often, would be wrong. True, he sees his important work as being the need to speak to those he left behind in mother Russia. True, he may have found it difficult to adjust to the warts-and-all aspects of a free society where self-indulgence, without a corresponding sense of responsibility, often threatens to become mere licence. But these are minor qualifications when compared to the core of his message about the importance of an awareness of the spirit of man, and the danger of ignoring it.

Solzhenitsyn has lived in a society whose authorities are inspired solely by the materialist ideal. The Soviet system is based on the explicit denial of the rights of an individual, which is so grounded in the tradition of Judeo-Christian ethics. Where the state is sovereign, there can be no place for any other religion. There is no rational method to counter this kind of ideology. It can be challenged and contained by a corresponding act of faith, but only faith. To reason with such Marxist implacability is to concede to it.

What worries Solzhenitsyn is the lack of evidence that the West possesses this kind of faith. He starts with the organized churches. No wonder he is disappointed. Denominational religion has come to place so much emphasis on the idea of community – over against that of the individual within the community – that there is often little to choose between the ethos of collective theology and that of collective materialism. Perhaps this emphasis on the communal ideal springs from a basic sense of weakness in the churches, who hope it will make up for a lack of cohesion based simply on an assertion of faith.

But there is no substitute for faith, and faith can never be a collective endowment. The inner life of an individual is not determined by social factors, otherwise he would merely be a foot soldier in a statistician's army. The trouble with the West, which Solzhenitsyn rightly perceives, is that politicians, though not dedicated to the elimination of religion like the Soviet authorities are, nevertheless seem to be totally taken up with material and rational criteria in their evaluation of the conditions of society. The churches keep pace with them in order to appear "relevant", so that they too harness their energies to social and material factors. In so doing, the churches connive at a denial of the spirit, for religion means dependence on the irrational fact of an individual and intensively personal experience, rather than one conditioned by outward circumstances.

It is faith, not reason, which gives an individual the independent standpoint from which to evaluate the external conditions of his life, however adverse they may be. It is faith, not reason, which lays the foundation of freedom and autonomy. Man, as a social being, obviously cannot exist without belonging to some community; but he will not find the ultimate justification for his existence in that community.

The coming election campaign will be full of claim and counter claim about the cost of living, jobs, wages, weapons, houses. Here is the whole cornucopia of a society encouraged by its leaders to think solely in terms of the good things in life, all of which can be calibrated and then bid for in the auction room of politics. There *are* good things in life. There are bad things too. But it is the ultimate things which must not be forgotten.

STAYING ON TARGET

Government departments went on a small spending spree at the end of the last financial year. Central government borrowing was £2,750m in March, much higher than expected and a turnround of more than £3,000m compared with the surplus in March, 1982. This had the usual effect on money supply growth. In April sterling M3 – the broad measure of money which continues to attract most comment – went up by almost 2 per cent, a rate of growth which, if continued in future months, would cause a large overshoot on official targets. There is increasing suspicion and concern that the government is allowing financial control to slip ahead of the general election.

The anxiety should not be overdone. The burst of spending in March was intended to offset previous underspending. In the 1982-83 financial year as a whole the public sector borrowing requirement was £9,200m compared to an original estimate of £9,500m, while money supply growth of about 12 per cent was broadly consistent with the target of 8 to 12 per cent. Indeed, the final numbers confirm the feasibility of financial targetry and tend to vindicate this approach to economic management.

There were, in any case, plausible arguments for a little carelessness with financial control at the end of 1982-83. Last autumn unemployment was rising quickly because of the intensification of the world recession, while the targets for both the budget deficit and the money supply were being met comfortably. The targets give the Government some room for manoeuvre. It was understandable that a minor relaxation should be engineered to promote domestic demand and ease the unemployment problem.

The episode demonstrates that the specification of targets does not reduce monetary policy to an exercise for computers and robots. There is still scope for political judgment and administrative discretion. The question now is whether the Government should have a strict or casual attitude towards the targets for the current financial year. These targets are for a public sector borrowing requirement of £8,500m and money supply growth of between 7 and 11 per cent.

The case for strict adherence to the guidelines is that, if they are missed, confidence in the Government's anti-inflation stand would be undermined. The loss of credibility might by itself complicate the task of inflation control because of the effect on foreign sentiment and so on the exchange rate. Moreover, the interest rate reductions already in place have contributed to a quite strong recovery in the economy. Signs of an upturn are still multiplying, with the March retail sales and housebuilding figures being the latest evidence.

But the recovery has not yet been sufficient to stem the rise in unemployment. There was an underlying increase of 22,000 in April, not significantly different from the typical monthly change in 1982. A further cut in interest rates seems to be justified to prevent the situation deteriorating further. With the building societies reporting longer mortgage queues because of a shortage of funds, there should be no doubt about the effectiveness of an interest rate cut as a stimulant to business activity. The societies' inflows of money would strengthen, they would have no difficulty in lending it out and extra impetus would be given to housebuilding and certain types of consumption.

This method of assisting the recovery would not endanger the target for public sector borrowing in 1983-84 since, unlike the widely-canvassed proposal for fiscal reflation, there would be no effect on public expenditure. It might lead to an increase in the private sector's demand for bank credit and eventually this would cause an acceleration of money supply growth, but for the time being bank lending to the private sector is weak.

The position is finely balanced. But the case for a small reduction in interest rates seems more persuasive than the case for a small increase or no change. The bad April money supply figures reflect a once-for-all and clearly identifiable special influence, while the most recent rise in the unemployment total indicates the continuation of a genuine and deeply worrying trend. The Government might nevertheless be unwise to sanction a fall in clearing bank base rates before the election because the charge of financial gerrymandering would inevitably – and damagingly – be levelled against it.

It should be pointed out that the latest economic developments, with a simultaneous strengthening in business activity and decline in inflation, validate the Government's emphasis on financial targets. The Labour Party and the Alliance seem to have much less faith in them. It would be a tragedy if these methods of control were to be abandoned after the election, just as they are beginning to work and to be respected because they work.

THE ETHNIC QUESTION

Raising their eyes beyond June 9 for one last time, the about-to-be-scattered MPs of the Commons home affairs committee have bequeathed to the nation a report about a problem which will probably not arise before 1991. There may not be many votes in the next decade next month, but it is a sensible and persuasive report. Indeed, almost all significant public voices in the field have been persuaded already – persuaded that the national census ought in future to contain the question about ethnic origins timidly left off it in 1981. The only doubt seems to be whether the thousands of heads of households who will actually fill in the census forms can also be persuaded: and that is the thing that matters. If they refused or lied in large numbers, then the whole census might be impaired.

The more complex a society is, the more it needs reliable information about its own condition to allow sensible policy decisions to be made (and, in passing, the stronger the case becomes to keep the data up-to-date with mid-term censuses like the one proposed for 1986 and now under threat). Granted that the state is well-intentioned, there is everything to be said for ensuring that it is well-informed on the basic characteristics of society. Yesterday's report shows graphically how effectively pressure-groups for ethnic minorities in other countries are able to use census data to win reforms from national and local administrations responsive to public opinion – and it shows how inadequate are the sample surveys and indirect inferences which have to serve as the basis for many important decisions affecting minorities in this country.

But how many members of those minorities do grant that the state is well-intentioned towards them? How many are quite sure that it will remain so, when it is responsive to a public opinion that often seems hostile? It would be better to drop the question than to risk significant distortion of the invaluable overall survey. The report stresses the importance of framing an ethnic question in ways that do not seem threatening, and of laying public reassurance on thick. It even proposes one gesture of conciliation which would only be justifiable as a last resort in face of an imminent threat of major disruption – a promise to destroy the individual forms which carry names and addresses, once the generalized data has been fed into the computer. These forms, held for a century in a confidentiality which has never yet been betrayed, eventually become precious material for the historian.

It is right to take care over the framing and presentation of the question. Above all, it must be made clear that the question is about race as distinct from immigration. But in fact much of the committee's anxiety seems misconceived. The controversy which led to the omission of a question in 1981 turned largely on a test census done in Haringey, which was used by some pressure groups as an opportunity to play on minority fears. But in spite of all the campaigning the result did not show that such a question was widely unacceptable to racial minorities. Whether race relations improve or deteriorate in the next few years it is probable (and desirable) that minority communities will become more ready and more able to put census information to good use. Knowledge is power, and it is in their clear interest to secure and use it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Union recognition and divers' strike

From the General Secretary of the Engineers' and Managers' Association

Sir, That North Sea divers organised by the Professional Divers' Association have been taking direct action in order to win the right to trade union recognition with their employers, is a direct consequence of the Government's decision in 1980 to abolish the previously established balloting arrangements used to assist in the determination of recognition disputes. The balloting procedures were covered by section 11 of the Employment Protection Act, which was repealed by the 1980 Employment Act.

We strongly support the divers in their claim for recognition from their employers. There would seem to be no good reasons for Sub-Sea Offshore, the US company which employs them, to refuse to recognise them for bargaining purposes.

I write, however, to draw attention at the beginning of the run-up to the election to the curious attitude of this Government to trade union ballots.

Any casual follower of their industrial relations policies could easily have imagined that the Government is always in favour of balloting to ascertain workers' opinions as the only basis of legitimate action. However, when it came to the arrangements they inherited, under which people could ballot as to whether they wanted their employer to recognise their union or association for collective bargaining purposes, that ballot mechanism was happily scrapped.

As we predicted at the time, this would lead sooner or later to the aggravation of recognition disputes, and that is exactly what is happening over the divers' recognition claim at the present time.

I wonder if, in their election manifesto, the Conservative Party will propose, alongside any other balloting proposals they may have in mind, to reintroduce ballots for recognition claims?

Yours sincerely,
JOHN LYONS, General Secretary,
Engineers' and Managers' Association,
Station House,
Fox Lane North,
Chertsey, Surrey.
May 10.

No easy exit

From Dr Mary Stopes-Roe

Sir, Two points come to mind with reference to Bernard Levin's *philosophising and moralising* (May 5) on the subject of the Voluntary Euthanasia Society's booklet.

A person in stressful circumstances who *knows* that she or he can control and use a means of ending the unpleasant situation is far more likely to put up with it for longer, if there are good reasons for so doing.

Further, and at a different level, I wonder about the good sense of suggesting that morals should be based on instincts. Self-preservation, or the "instinct" to stay alive, is powerful; so are many of our other "instincts", and we spend a good deal of moral energy combating them. On this basis his rather unpleasing reference to the New Testament turns round and bites him.

But in talking about "self-deliverance" we are not concerned with instincts at all, but with very complex relationships between social and emotional forces taking place in that poorly understood entity, the "self".

I for one am reluctant to impose strictures on any one else's personal "self" decisions. I believe access to information and advice is far more likely to help than preaching to the desperate about vessels that must be kept upright.

Yours faithfully,
MARY STOPES-ROE,
155 Moor Green Lane,
Moseley, Birmingham.

Grand National fund

From Mrs B. M. Somerset-Jones

Sir, I see from today's edition (May 5) that insufficient funds were raised for the Grand National course at Aintree.

A golden opportunity was lost on the day of the big race. On the busiest day, Saturday, the weather was sunny and thousands of people went along to Aintree and did the customary walk round the course and picnicked.

I am sure that many people would have made a donation had there been collecting boxes and perhaps the winners would have put in an extra pound or two.

It requires much more effort to write out and post a cheque once the event is over.

Yours faithfully,
B. M. SOMERSET-JONES,
Southmead, Mill Lane,
Willaston, Wirral, Cheshire.

Cost-effectiveness and crowded jails

From Mr Martin Wright

Sir, Mr Whitelaw's humane concern to relieve prison overcrowding (feature, May 5) does him credit; but he clings to the most costly and least effective policy for doing so, while professing support for non-custodial sanctions. In five years he is recruiting 2,300 more prison officers, many of whom will be paid well over £10,000 a year; but they supervise fewer than three prisoners on average.

On another page it is reported that in the next three years there will be only 150 more probation officers (earning rather less). But each of them commonly supervises at least 30 offenders in the community, besides numerous other duties including helping prisoners and their families.

With 7,000 fewer prisoners the prison system would be down to about its official capacity and it is generally agreed that at least that number are minor offenders, social casualties who could be diverted from prison if non-custodial resources were available. It could be done by 300 probation officers at a quarter of the cost of the prison staff (even with a generous allowance for overheads).

Fifty per cent of prisoners are reconvicted within two years (and even more from borstals and detention centres). But 80 per cent of probation orders are completed without a reconviction, or terminated for good progress – a striking contrast, even allowing for the difference in intake.

Probation initiatives are also stymied by the funding system: unless they can extract 20 per cent of the cost from beleaguered local authorities, the Home Office hangs on to its 80 per cent.

If each probation area were offered (with suitable conditions) say £3,000 from central funds for every reduction below its predicted prison population, we should all be better off. There might even be a lower reconviction rate.

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN WRIGHT,
107 Palace Road, SW2.
May 6.

From Lord Hylton

Sir, The Home Secretary (feature, May 5) strongly defends his record. Certainly he has started more prison-building and modernization of obsolete jails than most of his predecessors. Many, however, will find it strange that he did not mention extending parole to offenders serving medium and short sentences. Such a measure would significantly reduce the prison population within one year.

Mr Whitelaw did not refer to the importance of removing alcoholics, drug addicts and the mentally ill from prison to adequately secure places where they can receive urgent medical treatment and care. One also looked in vain for a mention of the need for more bail hostels to accommodate prisoners on remand, especially those of no fixed address.

Policies of this kind will of course be expensive and will involve departments other than the Home Office. I believe they will prove cheaper in the long run than merely enlarging a prison system which frustrates both staff and inmates and discharges some prisoners in a worse state than when they entered.

You reported on page 2 of the same day that the probation service will receive an extra £1m instead of the £8m that is thought necessary for implementing non-custodial sentences under the recent Criminal Justice Act. Let us all demand rational penal expenditure instead of an ever-growing prison system, which already costs more per prisoner than public school education.

Yours faithfully,
HYLTON,
House of Lords.

The Tory succession

From Mr Humphry Berkeley

Sir, In your obituary of Lord Redmayne (April 30), you refer to the speech which he made after the appointment of Lord Home as Prime Minister in October, 1963. You quote him as saying that Lord Home was "unquestionably the first choice of the Conservative Party in the House of Commons". May I state the position and methods which were used to produce this result?

Almost all Conservative members of Parliament, including myself, were asked the question "If Rab and Quintin were to tie, would you accept Alec Home as Prime Minister to keep the party united?" I replied, to my Whip, that this question was most improper, unless I were shown figures which indeed, did show that Mr R. A. Butler and Lord Hailsham had received an identical number of votes. This data was never made available to me.

I subsequently wrote to Mr Redmayne (as he then was) and he granted me an interview. I asked him to give me the number of my, then, colleagues who had voted for Mr Butler, Lord Hailsham, and Lord Home. This he declined to do.

I then asked him to tell me whether the votes of some Conservative members of Parliament had been weighted, on grounds of seniority or some other special factor. He conceded that this had happened, but under questioning, he refused to tell me what formula had been used by him, or his subordinate Whips, to achieve the result contained in his public statement.

My own informal polling of my colleagues showed that all of them had been subjected to the loaded question referred to above. It also showed that Mr R. A. Butler had an overwhelming lead among members of Parliament, with Lord Hailsham in second place, and Lord Home trailing behind as a very poor third choice.

I do not criticise Lord Redmayne for what he did, since he was clearly, under the orders of Mr Harold Macmillan, who was still Prime Minister. Indeed, I always found him a most considerate and understanding Chief Whip. Nor do I wish to criticise Lord Home, for whom I have great affection and admiration. He should not, however, have become Prime Minister in October, 1963.

Yours faithfully,
HUMPHRY BERKELEY,
Three Pages Yard,
Chiswick, W4.

Europe as an entity

From Mr Adam Fergusson, MEP for West Strathclyde

Sir, Mr Barney Trench was right to emphasise the point that, as he puts it (April 30), "other people accept Europe as an entity much more readily than do the Europeans themselves".

The proposition is evident across the Community's institutions. As European political co-operation (EPC) develops between the Foreign Ministers of the Ten the member states are finding it increasingly unrewarding to act independently in foreign policy and more productive than ever to act in unison, speaking with one voice where that is appropriate. Not the least reason for this is the presumption by outsiders that we will so behave.

Likewise, those who attend the European Parliament commonly observe that the anxieties of the numerous lobbies from third countries in Strasbourg invariably outweigh the apparent attention paid to its proceedings by the governments and parliaments of the member states. Those lobbies assume that there is a coherent European public opinion to be influenced.

I do not doubt that the acceptance of – perhaps the insistence on – a European entity and identity by "other people" (including, perversely, the Soviets' refusal to recognise it) is a strong force for European cohesion and for the development of the Community as a significant bastion of Western security.

And I fancy that many of those who hope to pull the United Kingdom out of the Community, and assert that our exit would be either painless or beneficial, have already reflected on this matter.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ADAM FERGUSSON,
9 Addison Crescent, W14.
May 1.

Media challenge

From Professor Yorick Wilks

Sir, Mr Scargill repeated, on early morning television yesterday (May 3), a claim he has made a number of times, but which his discussants never question: the news media in this country are inconsistent, he says, because they oppose trade unions here but appear to support Solidarity in Poland, even though both are opposed to their respective governments.

This claim, if true, is serious and damaging; but it is, of course, utter rubbish. The Government in this country is elected, and by a population known to be 80 per cent in favour of further curbs on the powers and immunities of unions.

Little is sure about Poland, except that the Government is not elected, in any sense of that word that we can understand and that Solidarity appears to command wider support than any Government-backed unions. Or at least, it did when it was last possible to make a count.

There is no inconsistency in the reports by television and newspapers: they broadly support popular policy in both countries, in so far as that can be objectively established.

Yours sincerely,
YORICK WILKS,
402 Old Road,
Clacton, Essex.

Livening up Greenwich

From Mr Anthony Bailey and others

Sir, Mr Simon Jenkins's recent suggestion (feature, April 28) that the South Bank be livened up with stalls and a street market is a good one. Here in Greenwich, on the council-owned Burney Street site in the town centre, not far from the greatest concentration of baroque architecture in Britain, a cheerful weekend open-air market has been one of the positive things to come out of failure – over some 22 years – to develop the site; other useful by-products of this neglect are a community-created garden, and a car park without which local shops, restaurants and the Greenwich Theatre would be severely crippled.

Now, however, Greenwich Council's Housing Committee has decided to apply for planning permission to develop the four-acre site entirely for suburban-scale housing, in the process doing away with car park and market.

This decision is contrary to oft-repeated council promises to the public over the years that the site would be developed for a mixture of uses; not only housing but a hotel, craft workshops, shops, and community facilities have been frequently proposed in answer to the call at public meetings for such varied use.

The most recent public "consultation exercise", on March 31 this year, saw several hundred people of various income brackets, political allegiances and social backgrounds make such a unanimous demand; they included local councillors from both Labour and Conservative parties.

That the public has a keen common sense for what makes an urban locality work was further shown in the request for walkways giving access across the site and for an open plaza to provide a central meeting place and a spot on which the market could continue.

We all realize the need for new council housing, particularly for the elderly, but there is vacant land not far away, including some owned by the ILEA and GLC, that could be released for such purposes with a little bureaucratic lubrication.

Greenwich is a London town centre of local, national, and international importance, which needs practical help for its economy and community vitality as much as it does reverence for its historic architecture. May we ask for support in preventing this short-sighted scheme from going forward?

Yours etc,
ANTHONY BAILEY,
DAVID DRUMMOND,
GLENDA JACKSON,
ROY FULLER,
RICHARD MOY,
RODERICK RHYS JONES,
63 Royal Hill,
Greenwich, SE10.
May 5.

Conservative view on nuclear force

From Mr John Wilkinson, MP for Ruislip-Northwood (Conservative)

Sir, I am surprised that Mr Anthony Verrier (letter, May 10), who has taken such a consistent interest in defence, should so seriously misinterpret Conservative attitudes to nuclear strategy.

First, the fact that there have been nuclear bases in East Anglia and elsewhere in Britain for over a generation, makes less understandable rather than more the opposition of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and of the Labour Party to the stationing of cruise missiles in this country. Secondly, Mr Verrier asserts that mutual deterrence is not impaired if one superpower has a measurable "superiority" in a particular category of nuclear weapons. This is not true at any level.

At the tactical level nuclear superiority on the part of the USSR complemented by intermediate range and strategic equivalence between the superpowers could conceivably render a Soviet nuclear blitzkrieg a valid policy option. Soviet superiority in intermediate range nuclear forces, unless redressed by Nato, could in the view of Soviet planners decouple the United States' nuclear guarantee of Western European security since, in the absence of adequate theatre nuclear forces, the United States would risk nuclear retaliation on its homeland if it invoked its strategic arsenal in response to Soviet aggression at a theatre level.

Lastly, the possession of an adequate strategic nuclear deterrent is the headstone of what should be a symmetrical arch of nuclear deterrence whose twin pillars are sufficient tactical and theatre nuclear forces and whose foundation is an adequate conventional defence.

The strategic nuclear component of our defences ensures that there is no advantage to a potential aggressor in either a resort to strategic nuclear blackmail or to the first use of nuclear weapons. Its effect, therefore, is to inhibit the use or threat of nuclear weapons as a credible option by an offensive power. In short it helps to preserve peace.

The French Socialist Government, in response to Mr Andropov's latest offer on intermediate nuclear force arms control, has rightly insisted that France's nuclear forces are not negotiable. The overall effectiveness of the Western Alliance's deterrent is enhanced by having two supplementary centres of nuclear decision in Western Europe.

The additional uncertainty in gauging the British and French nuclear response to a Soviet attack of any kind which put at risk the sovereign independence of Britain or France undoubtedly helps to restrain most effectively the Soviet designs upon Britain, which Mr Verrier acknowledges.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WILKINSON,
House of Commons.
May 10.

Better railway policy

From Lord Tanlaw

Sir, The Chairman of the British Railways Board, in a recent address to the Chartered Institute of Transport, pointed the way towards the "better railway". Apparently the signposts are to be found in the Serpell report, described similarly by the Minister of Transport as "a stepping stone . . . towards the better railway". The report has based its main recommendations on closure of between 2,000 and 3,000 miles of railway track.

I understand that, after a closure notice has been served, the department has two years in which to decide the future of a defunct railway line. If no directive is received British Rail can sell the land for caravan sites, rubbish tips or, failing a purchaser, leave it to decay without public access or right of way.

Is this not the time to have a national policy on the derelict areas of countryside which were once railway lines? Threatened routes like Carlisle to Settle, if they are no longer suitable for trains, could be turned into cycleways, bridleways and walkways at small cost and immense public benefit. Before any cuts are made the concept of an improved but reduced rail system must surely include what is to be done with existing and future closed rail routes?

There is nothing to prevent the British Railways Board, in conjunction with the Minister of Transport, from setting up a commission now with all local authorities concerned to establish a public right of way for posterity along these old and threatened routes.

If something like this is not done soon visions of the "better railway", as seen by Serpell and others, will be tarnished for ever by the thousands of miles of needlessly derelict countryside they will have created for our grandchildren.

Yours faithfully,
TANLAW,
House of Lords,
May 5.

Buying British

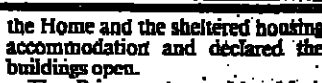
From Sir Anthony Royle, MP for Richmond-upon-Thames (Conservative)

Sir, Mrs Julia Draper in her letter to you dated April 23 warned shoppers who wish to buy British to be wary of the "almost hidden and invisible" words "Made in Hongkong". But Hongkong is British.

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY ROYLE,
House of Commons.
May 5.



COURT AND SOCIAL



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 11: His Excellency Monsieur Souler Issoufou Idrissou was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the People's Republic of Benin to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following member of the Embassy, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Monsieur Alexandre Lapido (First Counsellor).

Sir Antony Acland (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by The Queen was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr P. W. Heap was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands on his appointment as British High Commissioner to the Bahamas.

Mrs Heap had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

Air Marshal Sir Thomas Kennedy had the honour of being received by The Queen on relinquishing his appointment as Commander-in-Chief Royal Air Force Germany.

The Queen this evening attended a Reception given by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales at St James's Palace, where Her Majesty was received by the Chairman of the Council (Miss Zena Oxlade) and the Acting Registrar (Miss Elizabeth Raybould).

The Hon Mary Morrison, Mr Robert Fellowes and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips visited Hampshire today.

Having been received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Hampshire (Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Scott, Bt), Her Royal Highness toured and afterwards opened Oaklands Community School, Southampton (Headmaster, Dr P. Hollis) and was later entertained at luncheon.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips this afternoon visited Cranleigh Paddock, Lyndhurst, and was received by the Chairman of the County Council (Councillor L. White). Her Royal Highness toured the Home and the sheltered housing accommodation and declared the buildings open.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips later visited Lymington Hospital and opened the new extension at Lymington Infirmary, where Her Royal Highness was received by the Chairman of Wessex Regional Health Authority (Dr B. Thwaites).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, attended by the Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

CLARENCE HOUSE
May 11: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this evening at a Gala Performance of *The Magic Flute* given by the English National Opera at the London Coliseum in aid of the Museums Association.

Lady Angela Oswald and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 11: The Prince and Princess of Wales arrived at Heathrow Airport, London this morning upon the conclusion of Their Royal Highnesses tour of Australia and New Zealand.

The Prince of Wales this evening attended a dinner of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers at Fishmongers' Hall, London, EC4.

The Hon Edward Adeane was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 11: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Richard III Society, was present this evening at a Dinner to mark the Quinentenary of King Richard III's Accession, at Guildhall, Lonodn.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

Prince and Princess Michael of Kent are to attend a civic luncheon, at which the Mayor of Cannes will be the host, in connexion with Variety Clubs International on Saturday.

Lady Hickman gave birth to a son in London on May 5.

Conservative Commonwealth and Overseas Council. Members and guests please note that the function to be held at the House of Lords/Commons on Monday, May 16 and the annual general meeting on May 24 at the House of Commons have been cancelled owing to the forthcoming general election. Inquiries should be made to the Honorary Secretary, Mrs M. de la Motte, 584 0651, 671 3304.

Luncheons

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher were hosts at a luncheon given at 10 Downing Street yesterday in honour of the Prime Minister of New Zealand and Mrs Muldoon. The other guests were:
The High Commissioner for New Zealand and Mrs Young, Mr B V Galvin, Mr T J Grosser, Mr D S S Kerr, Mrs L Miller, Mr and Mrs B M Brown; the Commonwealth Secretary General and Mrs Ramphal, Mr Michael Heseltine, MP, and Mrs Heseltine, Lord Belstead, Mr Arthur Bottomley, MP, and Dame Bessie Bottomley, Sir David and Lady Steel, Sir Christopher and Lady Laidlaw, Sir Anthony Royle, MP, and Lady Royle, Sir Harold and Lady Smedley, the Hon Peter Brooke, MP, and Mrs Brooke, Mr Richard Luce, MP, and Mrs Luce, Mr Neville Sandelson, MP, and Mrs Sandelson, Mr and Mrs Charles Douglas-Home, Mr and Mrs J M Corbet-Singleton, Mr and Mrs Roy Exley, Mr and Mrs J. Peach, Mr and Mrs Craig Saxton, Mr and Mrs C S R Giffard, Mr Christopher Roberts, Mr Ian Gow, MP, and Mr John Coles.

Lord Mowbray and Stourton
Lord Mowbray and Stourton (chancellor) entertained at luncheon yesterday officers of the council of the Primrose League. There were present:
Lord and Lady Home of the Hirsel, Mr Edward Du Cann, MP, and Mrs Du Cann, Mr John Stokes, MP, and Mrs Stokes, Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, MP, Sir Graham Rowlandson, Mr and Mrs Evelyn King, Mr Robert Beldam, Mr William Cash, Mr W L Grant, Mr and Mrs Peter Hawley.

Service luncheon

Blake Term RN College Osborne 1916
A luncheon to celebrate the 67th anniversary of joining the RN College Osborne was held at the Naval and Military Club, Piccadilly, yesterday. Present were Air Marshal Sir Gilbert Nicholetts, Rear-Admirals J. D. N. Ham and I. G. Maclean, Captain J. G. Hewitt, Commanders R. I. Hoyle, R. F. Jessel, Sir Clive Loehnis, H. StA. Malleson, J. Quicke, A. O. Watson and Duncan Mackintosh.

Dinners

Richard III Society
The Duke of Gloucester, Patron of the Richard III Society, proposed the toast to the memory of King Richard III at a quincentenary dinner at Guildhall, London, last night. The Duke of Norfolk and Sir Colin Cole, Garter Principal King of Arms, were among the guests of honour.

British-Israel Chamber of Commerce
The annual dinner of the British-Israel Chamber of Commerce took place last night at the Savoy Hotel. Mr Monty Sumray, chairman of the chamber, was in the chair and the guests of honour were Mr Cecil Parkinson, MP, and Mr Gideon Patt, Israel's Minister of Industry and Trade.

Old Bancroftians Association
The President of the Old Bancroftians' Association Mr T. F. Auber, held a dinner at Drapers Hall last night. Guests included the Master of the Drapers' Company, the chairman of the governors and the Headmaster of Bancroft's School and their ladies.

General Dental Council
Sir Frank Lawton, president, and members of the General Dental Council held a ladies' night dinner at 37 Wimpole Street.
The guests were the President of the Council and Mrs Biffen, Lord and Lady Colwyn and Sir Neville and Lady Leigh.

Service dinners

Royal Signals
The Royal Signals Officers Dinner Club held their annual dinner at the London International Press Centre last night. Master of Signals, Major-General J. M. W. Badcock, presided.

Southampton University Air Squadron
Southampton University Air Squadron held their annual dinner in the Officers' Mess, Aeroplane and Armament Experimental Establishment, RAF Boscombe Down yesterday. The guest of honour was Air Marshal J. B. Fitzpatrick, Air Officer Commanding No 18 Group, RAF Northwood. Other guests included Professor J. M. Roberts, Vice-Chancellor of Southampton University, Dr H. D. Law, President of Portsmouth Polytechnic, Air-Vice Marshal R. C. F. Peirse, Air Officer Commanding and Commandant of RAF College, Cranwell, Air Commodore R. J. Spiers, Commandant of A and AEE, Boscombe Down. The hosts were the Commanding Officer, Squadron Leader B. Bulley, and members of the squadron.

Armourers and Brasiers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Armourers and Brasiers' Company from July 7: Master: Colonel G F Harley Archer; Upper Warden: Mr Peter W Trumper; Renter Warden: Dr Robert M S Perrin.

Trinity House

The Duke of Edinburgh was reelected Master of Trinity House for the forthcoming year at the annual court held yesterday. Captain Sir Miles Wingate was reelected deputy master and Captain D. A. G. Dickens and Captain D. J. Cloke were reelected wardens of the corporation.







Some of the prince's treasures: (from left) a Fon wood figure, expected to fetch up to £22,000; an Ibo mother and child (up to £30,000); and a Songe stool.

African art heritage for sale

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The superb collection of African art formed by Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan over three decades is to be auctioned by Sotheby's in London on June 27. Its value has been conservatively estimated at around £750,000.

Prince Sadruddin, the present Aga Khan's uncle, has worked extensively for the United Nations and has taken a pioneering interest in the development of "alternative" energy sources through his Bellerive Foundation. He lives at the Château de Bellerive in Switzerland, a former home of the Savoy royal family.

His interest in African art was kindled on United Nations missions to Africa from the 1950s onwards. He describes it as "a brooding continent of immense proportions with a myriad people so different in their complex social and cultural backgrounds".

He became fascinated by the mythologies of different tribes, especially as a means of understanding their cultures at a deeper level. With African art he found himself able "to touch and to contemplate the materialized expression of their mythology".

Apart from the Fang wood head which is expected to fetch more than £100,000, the most important pieces tend to be the only examples of their kind or the first to reach the auction market, and thus virtually impossible to value.

There is a life-size Ibo wooden mother figure, painted in colours and clasping a wooden child across her stomach. It is the largest known figure from this Nigerian tribe and of most unusual quality (estimate £20,000 to £30,000).

There is a sixteenth century Portuguese carved ivory salt cellar from Sierra Leone, a Fon wood figure from Dahomey and a stunning Songe royal stool from Zaire, supported by a big-breasted woman who sports rows of bead necklaces and a powerfully distorted face which could have walked straight from a cubist painting by Picasso.

The prince's unusual interest in mythology and his sensitive "eye" for sculptural quaity make this collection highly personal. He has collaborated with Roberto Fainello, of Sotheby's, in compiling the catalogue. Mr Fainello comments that the price estimates are very much lower than they would have been three or four years ago in the wake of the recession. However, it could be the sale that turns the tables again.

Bishop Thomas Gumbleton: Kept the ball rolling.

Bishop's nuclear mission

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, the auxilary bishop of Detroit, who was in London this week, is the man who has pushed and pulled and argued the powerful Roman Catholic Church in the United States into direct opposition to the whole postwar drift of American nuclear policy.

He was one of the small committee of bishops who drafted the pastoral letter on nuclear warfare which became official policy of the United States' Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference last week.

Not only did they pass it, they hardened it, putting back into the text a firm commitment to a nuclear freeze that the drafting committee had softened.

The Reagan Administration had greeted the proposed concession too warmly, Bishop Gumbleton believes, and his episcopal colleagues reacted the other way.

He was only one of the draftsmen, and not the one with most ecclesiastical weight; the committee chairman was the Archbishop of Chicago, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, perhaps the strongest personality in the American church.

But it was Bishop Gumbleton who started the ball rolling and kept it in motion until the dramatic outcome.

A speech he made to the bishops in conference in 1980 was actually applauded, not the usual way Roman Catholic bishops express their point of view, out of that unusual beginning there came a working party.

Its conclusion, somewhat simplified, was that no good Christian serviceman could ever press the nuclear button. And at least a third of the American armed forces are Roman Catholics, beholden to their bishops for moral teaching.

The dimensions of the possible conflict between church and state, now the stiffened final draft is official church policy, are almost unlimited.

No one knows how the thousands of Roman Catholic chaplains in the services will handle it, although the chief chaplain, Cardinal Terence Cook, of New York, contradicted his hawkish reputation when it came to the decision, and voted for the pastoral letter himself.

Compared with all that, Monsignor Bruce Kent, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is small beer.

Birthdays today

Mr Burt Bacharach, 54; Sir Lennox Berkeley, 80; Mr Leslie Charteris, 76; Mr M A Coates, 59; Sir George Dunnett, 76; Mr P N G Gilbert, 49; Sir Harold Grime, 87; Miss Susan Hampshire, 41; Lord Hinton of Bankside, OM, 82; Professor Dorothy Hodgkin, OM, 73; Mr H V Hodson, 77; Mr Wilfred Hyde White, 80; Lord Kaldor, 75; the Earl of Kimberley, 59; Sir Hector Laing, 60; Rear-Admiral Sir Matthew Slattery, 81; the Right Rev H W Montefiore, 63; Dr Miriam Stoppard, 45; Sir Charles Trinder, 77; Sir Edward Tuckwell, 73.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon D. M. Wilson and Miss A. C. Hayward
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of the late Lord Nunburnholme and Mrs Harry Jonas, of Yacht Kerry Piper, and Amanda, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Hayward, of Gardiners Hall, Stoke Ash, near Eye, Suffolk.

Mr S. Ziegler and Miss M. Shuckburgh
The engagement is announced between Scott, son of Mr and Mrs Douglas Ziegler, of Hermosa Beach, California, and Matilda, daughter of the Hon Mrs Clark, of London, SW3, and of Mr Julian Shuckburgh, of London, W.2.

Mr A. R. L. Baylis and Ms D. L. duPont
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Baylis, of Pantygallog House, Sennybridge, Powys, and Darcie, daughter of Mrs Joan Lazar, of 1060 Fifth Avenue, New York City, New York.

Mr C. H. Cox and Mrs N. S. London
The engagement is announced between Charles Cox and Felicia, widow of Nicholas London.

Mr A. E. Davey and Miss T. M. Selbach
The engagement is announced between Adam Edward, elder son of Mr and Mrs A. B. T. Davey, of Islington, London, and Theodora Maria, younger daughter of Mr and Mevr T. H. Selbach-Peters, of Beek/Nijmegen, Netherlands.

Mr A. C. Golder and Miss L. J. V. Strachan
The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. R. Golder, of 53 East Sheen Avenue, London, SW14, and Lucy, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs M. F. Strachan, of Glenhighton, Broughton, by Biggar, Lanarkshire.

Mr S. A. Guy and Miss J. T. Fort
The engagement is announced between Stuart, second son of Mr and Mrs W. Guy, of Cobbaton, north Devon, and Jayne, youngest daughter of Mrs A. J. Fort and the late Mr J. T. F. Fort, of Ashtead, Surrey.

Dr A. Hardwick and Miss A. M. Douglas
The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs A. Hardwick, of Dronfield, Derbyshire, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. R. T. Douglas, of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.

Mr S. G. M. Lindsay-Watson and Miss C. E. Waterlow
The engagement is announced between Simon, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Michael Lindsay-Watson, The Coach House, Gedges Farm, Matfield, near Tonbridge, Kent, and Chrissie, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs William Waterlow, 34 Scott Drive, Exmouth, Devon.

Mr M. Pagan Taylor and Miss M. L. Brook
The engagement is announced between Martin, elder son of Major and Mrs Philip Pagan Taylor, of Egland House, Honiton, Devon, and Miranda Lizbeth, daughter of the late Dr Maurice Brook and of Mrs Brook, of Collingwood, Kettering, Northamptonshire.

Major J. S. W. Powell and Miss G. M. Fawkes
The engagement is announced between John Powell, The Green Howards, son of Colonel and Mrs G. S. Powell, of Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, and Jill, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs L. V. F. Fawkes, of Churt, near Farnham, Surrey.

Mr M. P. Pragnell and Miss S. B. Williams
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs George Pragnell, of Stratford-upon-Avon, and Susan, daughter of Mrs Williams and the late Mr Roger Williams, of Merstham, Surrey.

Jonkheer R. A. M. van Reigersberg Versluys and Miss S. J. Zurak
The engagement is announced between Roderick, son of Jonkheer and Mme M. L. van Reigersberg Versluys, of Pont Street, London, and Suzanne Juliet, daughter of Mr G. Zurak, of London, and Mrs Eve Zurak, Hyde Park Square, London.

Mr S. Robinson and Miss C. Low-Beer
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr and Mrs M. C. Robinson, of Prices Farmhouse, Leigh, Kent, and Caroline, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Low-Beer, of Kensington, London.

Mr J. A. Waller and Miss S. J. Knowles
The engagement is announced between James Alexander, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Michael Waller, of Shawfield Park, Bickley, Kent, and Susan Jane, only daughter of the late Mr Bud Knowles and Mrs Ann Knowles, of Rosehill Farm, Grendon, Northamptonshire.

Marriages

Mr J. H. B. Hartley and Princess Lubomirski
The marriage took place in London on Friday, May 6, between Mr Bingham Hartley and Princess Jane Lubomirski.

Professor P. H. Wender and Dr F. Burger
The marriage took place in New York City on Tuesday, May 3, between Professor Paul Wender and Dr Frances Burger.

Mr G. W. A. Whittle and Miss T. L. Felton
The marriage took place in London on Friday, May 6, of Mr Geoffrey William Alan Whittle and Miss Theresa Louise Felton.

Latest wills

Mr Richard Martin, of Fulwell, Sunderland, left estate valued at £51,787 net. He left all of his property to the National Trust.

Miss Marjorie Johnston, of Ealing, London, left estate valued at £331,653 net. She left bequests of effects and personal legacies totalling more than £91,000, and the residue equally among the RNIB, RNID, Children's Society, Distressed Gentlefolk Aid Association and John Groom's Association.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Birch, The Hon Mrs F. L., of Chelsea, London £221,073
Chivers, Mr Colin Francis, of Reigate, Surrey £365,139
Harden, Mr Charles Gerald, of Benenden, Kent £250,700

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Mr Marrack Goulding to be Ambassador to Angola and, concurrently, Ambassador (non-resident) to Sao Tome and Principe, in succession to Mr Francis Kennedy
Mr C. J. Boulton, Principal clerk, Table Office, House of Commons, to be clerk assistant to the House from August 1.
Mr Eric Sutherland, vice-chairman of Olympic Holidays, to be president of the Association of British Travel Agents.
Mr William Slack, senior lecturer of the Middlesex Hospital Medical School, has been elected Dean of The Middlesex Hospital Medical School for the 1983-84 academic session.

Incorporated Guild of the Cheltenham Ladies' College

To inaugurate the celebrations of the centenary of guild, which falls in 1984, there is to be a ball at the Hurlingham Club, on Thursday, June 2, 1983. Tickets may be obtained from Mrs Anne Chiene, Stone House, Snowdenham Links Road, Bramley, Guildford, Surrey, GU5 0BX.

Bishop for Bermuda

At the request of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Right Rev Gerald Ellison, the former Bishop of London, is going as his Vicar General to the diocese of Bermuda for a year.

£1,000 Premium Bond prizewinners

The £1,000 winners in the May Premium Bonds draw are:

[illegible]

OBITUARY

PROFESSOR C. E. PICKFORD
Authority on Arthurian studies

Professor Cedric Edward Pickford, who was Professor of Medieval French Literature in the University of Hull from 1965, died suddenly at his home on May 3. He was 56.

Pickford had the good fortune to go up to the University of Manchester in 1944 at a time when Professors Eugène Vinaver and T. B. W. Reid, together with a band of enthusiastic juniors, were establishing an international reputation in the field of medieval French studies. He started his research with Vinaver and so began a lifelong professional association which soon developed into a friendship, cemented when his master became an Honorary Professor in Hull in 1977.

Pickford was appointed an Assistant Lecturer in the University of Hull in 1950 and spent the rest of his academic life there. He was a splendid old-fashioned "university man", a scholar with an international reputation, a meticulous teacher popular with students, an unsparing committee man.

Vinaver had been a pupil of the great medievalist Joseph Bédier and it was in this way that the long humanist tradition was transmitted to Pickford in direct line – that medieval literature was more than a series of linguistic problems but a witness to the hopes and anguish of an articulate society. Pickford's interests lay in the field of Arthurian studies, to which he made an important contribution.

His first major work was an edition of *Alixandre l'Orphelin* (1951). An edition of *Erec*, an Arthurian prose romance (1959, reprinted 1968) was followed in 1960 by *L'Evolution du roman arthurien en prose vers la fin du moyen âge*. These were distinguished by impeccable documentation, an intelligent presentation and sensitive interpretations.

His interest in medieval drama was reflected in his edition of *La Farce de Maistre Pierre Pathelin* (1967, reprinted 1973). He published the first full edition of a twelfth-century Old French manuscript of *The Song of Songs* in 1974.

In 1981 appeared the first volume of *The Arthurian Bibliography*, the result of a five-year collaboration with R. W. Last. This comprised a complete computer-aided alphabetical author-listing of all recorded critical material in the field of Arthurian literature up to 1978. The second volume, containing a full subject index, is at the printers.

Just before his death, he co-edited *The Legend of Arthur in the Middle Ages*, a volume of studies presented to A. H. Diverres. In addition, he published many articles, and was a pillar of the Arthurian Society.

In 1956 he married Ivy Burgess, who survives him together with their son and three daughters.

MRS ANNA ROSENBERG HOFFMAN

Mrs Anna Rosenberg Hoffman, who was one of the most influential women in American public affairs for a quarter of a century and had the post of Assistant Secretary of Defence from 1950 to 1953, died in New York on May 9. She was 81.

Mrs Hoffman, best known as Anna M. Rosenberg, was a public relations executive for many years, and specialized in manpower and personnel while in the Pentagon. She was then the highest-ranking woman to serve in the country's military establishment. In 1944 and 1945 she visited Europe as the personal representative of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and President Harry Truman to report on military personnel matters.

She began her career in 1924 as a consultant in personnel and labour affairs and became active in the Democratic Party. She was consulted by Roosevelt when he was Governor of New York; soon after he became President she was appointed to the National Recovery Administration where she served until 1939, part of the time as New York Regional Director.

Born Anna Marie Lederer, in Budapest, Hungary on July 19, 1902 – echoes of that city lingered in her speech all her life – she went to the United States with her family in 1912. She was naturalized in 1919, the year she married Julius Rosenberg, a businessman.

Mrs Hoffman, who had a flair for dramatizing her activities in public life was with the Office of Defence Health and Welfare Services in 1941 and 1942, and a regional director with the War Manpower Commission from 1942 to 1945. When Roosevelt sent her to Europe in 1944, it was to look into soldiers needs after they were demobilized; she reported that education was what many soldiers were particularly interested in.

Later, when she was selected for the Defence Department post by Truman, the appointment was challenged on the false ground of communist affiliation, but the challenge failed. She was awarded the Medal of Freedom in 1945 and the Medal for Merit in 1947.

Mrs Hoffman sat on the boards of numerous organizations, one being the William Benton Foundation, owners of Encyclopaedia Britannica.

Her first marriage was dissolved in 1962, and she then married Paul G. Hoffman, who had been the first administrator of the Marshall Plan in Europe after the Second World War. He died in 1974. She is survived by a son by her first marriage.

HIS HONOUR WILLIAM SIME

His Honour William Arnold Sime, CMG, MBE, QC, a former captain of Nottinghamshire and Bedfordshire county cricket clubs, died at his home in Wymeswold, Leicestershire, on May 5, aged 74.

Educated at Bedford School and Balliol College, Oxford, he was called to the Bar of the Inner Temple in 1932. He joined the RAF in 1939 rising to the rank of Wing Commander, and was appointed MBE (Military Division) in 1946. Returning to Chambers after the war he was successively Recorder of Grantham, Great Grimsby, and in 1971 of the City of Birmingham. He took Silk in 1957. He also served as Senior Puisne Judge in Cyprus from 1957-58.

He retired as a judge in 1981 after serving ten years on the Midland and Oxford Circuits. He was appointed CMG in 1982. In addition to his cricketing interests, he had also been chairman of Bedford Rugby Club and chairman of Nottingham Racecourse.

DR. ROLLO HAYMAN

Dr Rollo Hayman, MBE, formerly Headmaster of St Thomas's College, Gurutalawa, Sri Lanka, died on May 8, at the age of 80.

L.A.H.A. writes:

Rollo Hayman was one of a noble band of educationists who made of St Thomas's College, Mt Lavinia, in Sri Lanka, an Alma Mater to be proud of, whose alumni were, and are, a credit in many parts of the world.

He joined the staff in 1929, deciding to teach and not pursue a career in research. He thus entered a long line of dedicated laymen and clerics from ancient foundations like Eton, and the colleges of Cambridge and Oxford, like King's, Selwyn and Keble. He became sub-Warden in 1935, and took charge of the branch at Gurutalawa in 1948.

There was hardly a facet of life at STC which his munificence did not enhance – be it the science laboratories, the fives court, the swimming pool, the Outward Bound School, scouting, or the chapel. Some hold that his greatest gift to the college was Mary Rudd, whom he married in 1945.

Appointed an MBE for his services to education – a reward he characteristically maintained was deserved more by others – he continued his benefactions to the point almost of impoverishing himself. Recently he became Patron of the Association of Old Boys in Britain, and one of his last acts was to visit the old school in March.

JOSEPH RUTTENBERG

Joseph Ruttenberg, the distinguished American film cameraman, has died in Los Angeles at the age of 93.

He won Oscars for *The Great Waltz* (1938), *Mrs Miniver* (1942), *Somebody Up There Likes Me* (1956) and *Gigi* (1958) and was nominated for six others. He was a master of the hard, almost three-dimensional, black and white photography that characterised Hollywood films during the classic era of the 1930s and 1940s, but was also in the forefront of the development of colour.

Born in St Petersburg (now Leningrad), he moved to the United States as a child and became a journalist and news photographer in Boston. He started in films with Fox in 1915, later moving to MGM where he stayed until the early 1960s. He completed his career, which stretched over more than half a century, with Paramount.

He was the director of photography on many famous pictures, from Lang's *Fury* and the Marx Brothers' *A Day at the Races* in the 1930s, to *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* – which was notable for the use of the subjective camera – *Madame Curie*, *Gaslight*, *The Forsyte Saga* and the 1953 production of *Julius Caesar*.

Sir Ronald German, KCB, CMG, who died on May 11 at the age of 77, was Director General of the Post Office from 1960 to 1966. He had previously been Postmaster-General for East Africa from 1950 to 1958, during which he was Chairman of the Makerere College Council 1957-58.

After retirement he was a director of Securicor and of the National Counties Building Society 1966-80.

Pictures by MIKE ABRAHAMS

Today's Office

Office managements are now recognising that electronic technology is the key to improved performance. Allied to this is better designed furniture and lighting.

Derek Harris reports





From typewriter to microcomputer: right, Phil Judkins, personnel manager of Rank Xerox, using an executive work station.

The concept of the paperless office, relying on a combination of computers, microelectronics and telecommunications, has created a good deal of euphoria in its time. Many companies have jumped on the electronic bandwagon – there are well over a hundred selling word processors alone in Britain – and their forceful salesmanship no doubt made its contribution.

That phase is largely over; it is accepted that the electronic revolution will not occur overnight. Nor will there be a sudden move towards the really sophisticated systems furniture which takes account of future needs like those of the electronic office although refinement of existing furniture systems has made big strides in improving work conditions.

Many offices, however, still boast no more than some electric typewriters, a few photocopiers and perhaps a television set capable of calling up the Prestel viewdata services.

Investments of up to £20,000 in capital equipment per worker are common in manufacturing industry while in offices still going their old-fashioned way investment per head can be little more than £1,000 in equipment.

In a recession, when survival is all, it has not been easy to take a longer view. But just as manufacturers are increasingly realizing that automation can increase their chances of success, office managements are recognizing that advanced information and voice processing are the key to improved performance.

World-wide sales of advanced office equipment last year have been put at £3,000m. This year a United Kingdom market worth £48m is the expectation of Butler, Cox and *Partners*, a leading UK *office* automation consultancy. This estimate was made after a £250,000 survey commissioned by the Department of Industry with five leading electronics companies (the survey is *The Market for Office Technology*: £20,000 from Butler Cox on 01-583-9381).

By 1987 the UK market could be worth £320m, Butler Cox believes. Between now and then the British market is expected to generate £800m in sales out of a West European total of £2,900m.

The survey, carried out over 18 months and produced at the turn of the year, is cautious in its projections. It discounts the likelihood of a white-hot revolution over the next few years: "Technologies, products, applications and supplier strategies will evolve. Customers will learn how to apply office technology slowly and often painfully."

Nevertheless, by 1987 the UK market for advanced office systems could represent 15 per cent of the vast market for information technology, from data processing systems to telecommunications.

Data terminals and videotext systems are likely to sell best at first, the survey suggests. But by 1987 there should be a £103m market for terminals integrating text, data, voice and pictures – the full professional workstation.

By that year more than 60 per cent of clerical workers (though only 12 per cent of managers) will be using an electronic terminal in their offices, the survey forecasts. But it mostly leaves out of account the specialized sector of the office furniture market which caters for the demands of the electronic office. This is the systems furniture sector, which this year could add at least £50m more in value as the recession lifts.

More recent studies suggest that there is some 44 million square metres of commercial office space in England alone, with around 6 per cent more being added annually. Most offices are still comparatively small.

Some 9 million people work in offices, well over a third of the country's workforce.

The latest investigation into the prospects for change in the office is the Orbit study* on information technology and design. Its sponsors include the Department of Industry and British Telecom.

The study says the scope for growth in use of information technology is vast. World market forecasts of an increase in sales volume of 15 per cent a year are now being made, Orbit points out. This could mean an increase of nearly half in real terms over five years.

Some products, such as word processors, are increasing sales by value at twice that rate, all the more impressive because prices have been falling during the difficult period of the recession.

EOSYS, office systems consultants, who are joint publishers of the Orbit study, surveyed 20 companies and found that most were expecting *to increase their expenditure on* office automation. The biggest increase was expected in desktop systems like word processors and microprocessors. Some 70 per cent or those surveyed expected to spend more on items like these.

Orbit says: "One of the most obvious manifestations in the normal working areas of offices will be more workstations. These will be similar to today's microcomputers, word processors and visual display units but with increasing sophistication, wider ranging capabilities, more customization to meet the needs of different users and a greater emphasis in managerial and professional workstations.

"This will bring a rapid increase in the requirement to link workstations so that they can be used for electronic mail and to access databases."

Multi-task workstations are expected for one in six office

The big change facing most clerical workers

workers within five to 10 years with one workstation for every three office workers in 10 to 15 years. Some sectors will embrace the new technology more quickly than others, Orbit suggests. In the finance sector one workstation is expected for every six employees within five years. Some companies already have more.

Nevertheless the study accepts that paper will be around for many years yet. Electronic filing is expected to account for less than half of stored documents for the next 15 years.

Similar conservative predictions are made about voice and text storage, store and forward message systems and about the transmission of document by digital means.

There are still some constraints to the rate of introduction of new technology into the office, Orbit concludes. Despite progressively cheaper systems, the cost and lack of standardization are still real barriers.

More and more multinational companies have nevertheless been moving into office automation. IBM and Apple, two of the best known names in *computers, recently launched* new microcomputers as the cornerstones of their electronic office systems. Wang is already deeply involved in the office market. So is Rank Xerox UK.

There are already 180,000 personal computers in use in British business establishments, according to the National Business Equipment Survey (NBES). The market could increase by a half this year, NBES suggests.

Facsimile transmission is another big growth area, according to Mr Gautam Barua, director of NBES. Kalle Infotec, part of Hoechst, and ITT have been making much of the running recently but other contenders include Rank Xerox and, among the Japanese, National Panasonic and Canon.

A bewildering array of companies are vying for part of the office automation business. It is blurring the old boundaries between computers, telecommunication and general electronics.

From the telecommunications route, for instance, there have been entries into the office market of companies like STC, Plessey and General Electric Company (GEC).

Olympia International is a typewriter company which has now developed a wide range of office equipment including *computer-interfacing printers*, calculators and dictation systems. Olympia estimates that between 1976 and last year the typewriter market has seen a decline in mechanical machines from 58 per cent to 39 per cent while electrics have risen from 42 per cent to 49 per cent, with the newer electronic models now at 12 per cent. Of these, word processors account for 3 per cent and electronic typewriters 9 per cent.

Olympia expects electronic typewriters – in which it claims a 30 per cent market share of those in place – to take 72 per cent of the market in the next three years.

Rank Xerox, although now involved in most aspects of office equipment, still has its strongest presence in the copier market. Although hard pressed, particularly by Japanese manufacturers, Rank last year accounted for about 29 per cent of copier sales, according to NBES. Among the Japanese makers Canon had 9 per cent market share and U-Bix 9 per cent with Minolta at 7 per cent.

The revolution rolls on, but there are obvious hurdles. Office buildings are ill-equipped to take the wiring complexity, extra weights and additional heat of the new machines. Office staff and managers also have personally to adapt to the new equipment. That has raised many questions from fatigue and health to the ergonomic design of equipment and the provision of adequate lighting. But the Orbit study does make this point: "Although there are some exceptions, most studies of staff reaction to working with new equipment show a high level of satisfaction and a growing sense of confidence and job involvement."

**The Orbit Study: Information Technology and Office Design: £200 from DEGW, 8-9 Bulstrode Place, Marylebone Lane, London W1M 5FW.*

ON OTHER PAGES

WORD PROCESSORS

Loving the machine more than the boss

Technology often has the frustrating tendency to lead, rather than follow the market, and this was endorsed in a recent survey produced by the UK Information and Word Processing Association (IWP).

The main conclusions from the survey indicated that 1983 will be another year of high sales growth for word processors and office computers. However the equipment users are still faced with a host of problems which make selections and implementation difficult. The IWP survey highlighted in particular:

- the difficulty in justifying the cost of buying systems
- the widening choice of hardware further complicated by the overlapping capabilities of microcomputers and dedicated word processors
- the need for more advanced communications facilities

The respondents were drawn from 700 word processor users, and 88 per cent said they were planning to acquire more word processing equipment this year. The overriding criterion for selection was reliability, and price was of secondary importance behind such factors as ease of learning, and the vendor's ability to provide future integrated office systems.

Secretaries were seen as almost unanimous in welcoming the introduction of the word processor (wp) and there was a trend in training wp operators more through in-house instruction and self-taught packages, with little emphasis on suppliers' training courses.

The IWP has often criticized the after-sales service in such areas as training by the manufacturers and according to Horace Mitchell, their national programmes officer, there is a distinct and definite shift towards the supplier "unbundling training and customer support, and charging for it, if offering it at all". The IWP does not enjoy witnessing this trend, but appreciate this has created an opportunity for other businesses to supplement this manufacturers' neglect.

About one third of respondents to the IWP survey saw information technology (IT) having some effect on secretarial numbers, but more than two thirds considered the change in secretarial deployment far outweighed the risk of unemployment.

The lack of help from the IT industry in providing user help and practical after sales advice and support, has forced the IWP to give such guidance in their seminars at the forthcoming user conference being held in parallel with the International Word and Information Processing Exhibition* at Wembley Conference Centre in London, May 24-27, 1983. Speakers "with practical knowledge and experience, rather than famous names or paper qualifications are the criteria used for the seminars" says Mr Mitchell, when discussing the conference "streams"; a "word processing" stream and an "information processing" one, the former catering for the first time user and those wishing to get improvement out of existing systems, while the second stream relates to the existence of office systems through communication and dp/wp integration, concentrating on the more serious management approach to the planning and implementation of office automation.

Secretaries will have access to better information through IT, and using their ideas and information is every bit as important as word processor selection. Gale Chitson, a secretary with Truman Ltd, the brewing part of Grand Met, endorsed this by saying that executives could be much more productive if "they listened to the ideas and information flowing to them through their secretaries. Of course a word processor would make me more productive, especially with regular routine work, or major reports, but executives need to utilise the secretarial functions better, whether there is a word processor or not".



Hugh Channon, administration manager of the Arthur Andersen company, where office automation has rapidly changed from being just a sales story for word processing to become a major investment area for the company.

The need for executives to appreciate the scope and potential of word processors, was emphasized by Aubrey Wilson, the marketing authority, when his secretary Jan, got her Adler word processor.

"She insisted that I sit down with her and understand *with* her just what this machine could, and could not, do to help me" says Wilson who admits to having been reticent about the introduction of IT into his offices. He was completely convinced within a day, as "the effect on improved productivity was instant, says Wilson. "She loves her machine, more than her boss unfortunately, but it was the way it was introduced that was just as vital as the chocie of equipment".

Unions do not like to be bombarded with change and new technology and Leslie Robert, the Nalgo official who is chairman of Brent Council's joint negotiating committee, considers there is much more scope for managers, users and trade union representatives to sit down and discuss the opportunities of new technology *before* it is bought.

He says: "We have had situations in Brent where equipment has arrived and been introduced without consultation and users' job roles and tasks have been changed without consent. This is the wrong way to introduce office automation – agreements must be reached first."

The traditional division of labour between executive and secretary is close to collapse, according to John Pardoe, the former Liberal MP who is now MD of Sight and Sound, the office training organization. Sight and Sound is the largest keyboard training organization in the world, with 11 colleges in the UK, and is about to become one of the largest managing agents under the Government's new youth training scheme. He says there is an urgent need for executives to overcome the prejudice of class and gender that invariably assigns keyboard functions to female secretaries, but even the IWP survey found that over 50 per cent of their respondents "foresaw difficulties for managers using work stations."

Sight and Sound gives programmed tuition in keyboarding and appreciation to operators of computer application, an essential training at a time when word processors are becoming increasingly more advanced.

In 1979, Olympia International launched the world's first standard electronic typewriter, and now four years later has seen the innovation of screen extensions to that typewriter. These offer the facilities of a dedicated word processor at a fraction of the price and means that hitherto "dead end" standard typewriters are now readily upgradeable.

The ETX-1 is promoted as a low cost alternative to multi-station word processing systems and, if purchased with the standard electronic typewriter, can mean a complete screen-based text-processing system for less than £1,800.

WORDNET has also produced its 2,000, the missing link which can connect up to eight different typewriters, golfball or electronic with any make of word processor. Costing less than £4 per typewriter input station per week, it brings the technology within reach of many smaller organizations which, according to the IWP survey had previously found it difficult to justify the cost of wp equipment.

New electronic interfaces are now being launched like Olivetti's OCTET KSR/MSR which can be used as an adjunct to its standard ET 121 electronic typewriter. This enables the typewriter to be used as a letter-quality printer for a micro, and adds a further 4,000 characters to the ET's one line memory. It also enables the typewriter to "communicate" with a third party such as another Olivetti machine, telex tape, or word processor.

Many offices still only have dictating machines, but this is changing as the manufacturers, like Philips and Dictaphone, extend their interests into word processors and other areas of office automation. Dictaphone's centralized dictation systems are today no longer the desk-top machines with hunting devices of 10 years ago, but are purpose designed systems capable of getting words direct from the author's desk to the typist, and back, as quickly as possible.

But the complexity of equipment on the market, usually in digital disguise, confuses the users. With a tendency to concentrate on selling rather than service, complacency within the IT industry breeds contempt in its potential users.

"User friendliness" may be the topical theme for the manufacturers, but as the IWP survey has endorsed, too many users only see this "friendliness" up to the buying stage, and very little thereafter. If only they appreciated how important the secretary was to an organization's office automation strategy then manufacturers might extend their "friendliness" long after they have sold their product.

**Details available from Quadrilect, telephone 01-243 8697*

Lynda King Taylor

INFORMATION

Why executives feel the pinch

The average office worker is interrupted every 17 minutes. True office automation, says Dr Rich Sneider, manager of market planning and development for Data General, has to consider this problem at all levels of office work.

Typing represents only one per cent of an office's budget, according to Sneider, five per cent on the professional, managerial and executive level. A company which is considering word and data processing in islolation from the activities of the office as a whole is, Dr Sneider says, "ignoring cost effectiveness, and also ignoring executive communications resource they should be."

Information is a corporate resource, and as such, office automation has to deal with the managing of information from a total corporate perspective.

According to a recent survey by the Information and Word Processing Association (IWP), few companies have an office automation strategy and few executives want to operate VDUs or work stations.

A recent experiment, by a UK subsidiary of IBM involving groups of managers and secretaries, tested how executives and other professionals accept the "paperless office". It confirmed that in most cases, the transition from pen or pencil to fully integrated work station by executives was seldom beyond the experimental stage.

This experiment, and a survey by Booz Allen and Hamilton, showed that executives, in the main, are remarkably unwilling to use new forms of office equipment personally; even the dictating machine, which can produce dramatic gains in productivity, has not penetrated the upper echelons to any great extent.

Executives, it seems, appear to be poor estimators of how they actually spend their time. Booz Allen consultants found wide discrepancies between executives' estimates of how long they expected to spend on a variety of activities and the time actually taken.

Executives expressed apprehension about their abilities to use information technology (IT) systems. This is obviously something manufacturers must worry about if their dream of having a VDU on every executive's desk by the end of the decade is to become reality.

Alan Benjamin, the chairman of IT Year 82 and director of communication of CAP Group, feels that for executives to accept office automation, "there will need to be a major development by the suppliers to make systems for managers much more friendly, and flexible, than they are now. This means that information will have to be accessible in the form which the manager recognises.

In human terms, today's computer is a spoon-fed idiot, but how many manufacturers' blurbs actually illustrate this? Sales literature expounds the powerful ability of the computer to calculate, with a faultless memory and even a communication prowess. It fails to emphasise that the computer cannot think, reason, interpret, or make decisions.

David Burt, deputy managing director of Hellermann Deutsch, the electrical connector manufacturers, says that if manufacturers made IT more "personal", more executives would be willing to accept change. All too often, say Burt and Benjamin, executives are made to feel that their jobs are being eroded by the introduction of elusive thinking machines – and that the computer is capable of putting a hundred years' thought into every management decision, which is simply not true.

The key to increased productivity and a sound future is by using new technology and, according to Pactel [the computer and telecommunications arm of PA International Management Consultants], by "managed innovation". Stuart Excell of Pactel says that tight financial control does not necessarily entail a sound economy, and that "by necessity, companies have to study the impact of technological change on their corporate strategy . . . the lesson is that organisations can no longer leave technology to the R & D boys. Directors must study and understand the impact of technological change on their corporate strategy, and indeed play a part in defining an overall technical strategy".

But according to executives like Benjamin and Burt, manufactures make it very difficult for them to answer such questions as:

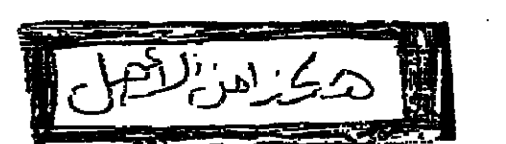
- What technologies should I invest in to remain competitive tomorrow?
- Who will be my future competitors?
- Where will my competitive markets be in the future?
- What sort of executives should I be recruiting for this organisation in five years time?

Willie Jamieson, senior manager of Arthur Andersen's Consultancy Division says the key challenge to executives is the rôle of middle managers in the future. How is middle management to be used when, information access having been aquired by senior executives themselves through office automation, this level of management could effectively be dispensed with and the work disappear. Jamieson says that if secretaries and support staff have better access to information, then their job rôles will be "upgraded" squeezing the middle managers above.

It is imperative, therefore, according to Jamieson, that corporate IT strategies look toward the future recruitment and planning policies.

This is particularly important with middle managers, for

continued on page 19



OFFICE FURNITURE

Design for more work and a lot less waste

The office furniture market, now worth at least £100m a year in sales, has been shrugging off the effects of recession in a way the rest of the furniture industry has envied. Furniture sales overall have been depressed for two years, with improvement coming in only at the end of last year. The office furniture market, however, grew last year by 8 per cent.

But a far bigger growth than this has come in that part of the office furniture market which represents the leading edge of designs and techniques. This is the systems sector which produces furniture in a more complex way to accommodate the demands not only of the electronic office but a working environment calculated to improve productivity while adding to individual comfort and convenience.

The best systems also look far enough ahead to allow scope for the inevitable changes which will come in as electronic and other systems proliferate in offices over the rest of this decade.

The systems market, in which there are now more than a score of manufacturers in Britain with some of them offshoots of the overseas giants, last year grew at twice the rate of the office furniture market overall, according to National Business Equipment Survey (NBSE). NBES puts the sector's annual sales value at about £50m although some manufacturers put the value as high as £70m compared with possibly £130m for the office furniture market overall.

Systems sales have eased in the past few months but NBES believes that this year will see up to an 18 per cent increase, with the overall office furniture market up between 12 and 13 per cent.

Entirely British companies account for about a third of the turnover in the systems market. Among them are Roneo Vickers and Lucas Furniture Systems, *both among the top five* producers of systems furniture. Newer entrants include Projects Office Furniture, part of the Bullough Group and Britain's largest manufacture of wooden office furniture, and G. A. Harvey of Margate which has been attracting trade attention with its latest gange of systems furniture.

But the market leader is Herman Miller, a United States based company but now with a substantial production presence in Britain, with two factories in Bath. Miller claims a 30 per cent market share in panel-based systems. Treading close to Miller in market share are offshots of two other United States companies: Steelcase and Westinghouse Electric.

Steelcase is the world's largest producer of office furniture and its European subsidiary is Steelcase Strafor, including a strong French interest with production facilities in France. Westinghouse has production facilities in the Irish Republic.

It is the systems makers which especially have addressed themselves to the problem of the unproductive office. There have been estimates that typists and secretaries spend only 15 per cent of their time actually typing letters and documents, with general administration accounting for 25 per cent of time, being away from the desk another 20 per cent, telephoning 10 per cent and probably another 10 per cent doing not very much. Chasing up records and files can also eat up much time.

The file of systems furniture has changed *dramatically* from the time when the office furniture industry simply provided people with desks, chairs and cupboards, according to Mr Neville Osrin, Steelcase's marketing manager in the United Kingdom.

He said: "One factor has been the trend towards office automation with the electronic office as the ultimate development. But there is also a growing awareness that the *environmental supports within* an office, including the furniture, do play a part in improving productivity."

He added: "Productive worktime is the key. We are finding that by using furniture which is responsive to change the amount of money required to keep productivity at an acceptable level is very much less." Most offices were still grossly ill-equipped to adapt to the new technologies coming in.

The aim of all sytems furniture is to cope with the ducting of electrical wiring for new electric equipment, often providing lighting suitable for work at visual display units, together with layouts and ergonomic seating which increase efficiency and reduce fatigue.

As much as two hours worktime a day can be lost through distractions, according to Mr Osrin. In open-plan offices there was need to tackle problems like lack of privacy, lack of opportunity to concentrate and poor acoustical control.

An entirely cellular office is not necessarily the only answer because varying degrees of privacy can be achieved by using panels of varying heights.

Research back-up is the strong suit of companies like Steelcase which even employ professional advisors to look into the psychology of workers in offices faced with change. "Offices are about people essentially", said Mr Osrin.

Although he expects the impact of microtechnology on the office to be enormous in the next few years, Mr Osrin *questions how far there will be* more working at workstations in the home or in community work centres. "That is a generation away", he said.

Lucas has developed its systems range after lengthy and continuing consultation with leading computer, telecommunications and microelectronic systems makers worldwide, according to Mr Jack Lucas, the company's marketing director.

With most office furniture makers developing their systems either from a wood manufacturing base or a steel construction base, Lucas has aimed at a balance between the elements of wood and steel. He added: "Britons seem to like wood better; it is a more traditional view."

After a slowdown in sales that set in last September Mr Lucas has seen a sharp increase in trade in the past few months and believes there will be sustained market growth the rest of this year. Lucas itself is looking from now to a turnover increase of 23 per cent or more in the next 12 months.

A key factor he believes is that companies are looking hard to saving on expensive office space. He claims planned systems workstations could save at least 20 per cent of space while allowing the same level of productivity.

At G. A. Harvey design manager Mr John Fogarty says that some systems furniture can be too bland with a tendency to depersonalize an office.

With colour features and other detail differences workstations can be personalized. He said: "We felt the British market in particular does not like too much of a dictated philosophy".

How far many of the British manufacturers succeed in the systems market could well depend on how far a distinctive British taste in office furnishings and systems continues to find a place as the office revolution continues.

Derek Harris
Commercial Editor



Neville Osrin: the electronic office is the ultimate aim

Living up to the lavish literature

COPIERS

According to a recent survey, copier machines are fast overtaking the work of duplicators in American offices. The study made by Predicasts Inc, a business information company based at Cleveland, Ohio, shows that the most rapid growth is in plain paper copiers replacing coated paper electrostatic machines as well as offset duplicators.

The same message comes from the UK market, with copiers becoming more compact, cheaper and more capable than ever before and, as a result, more popular, writes **Lynda King Tayler.**

Technology has improved copy quality and reliability and has allowed for the inclusion of intricate and specialized features on even low volume equipment.

In a *Times* survey for this report, copy quality was regarded as the most important requirement by firms considering buying a copier, whether a simple desk top model or a high speed, high volume machine. Seventy-eight per cent of the 75 companies approached put strong service back-up second to copy quality, but 63 per cent of the companies were dissatisfied with aftersales service and complained of misrepresentation by salesmen.

The most frequent complaint was the machines' failure to live up to the salesmen's lavish literature, and the bigger the manufacturer the greater the number of complaints. Companies in the low to middle volume end of the market attracted fewer complaints, and this may well be because this is where there is sharp competition. Many firms have a medium sized copier for each office or floor, rather than one central machine, and this trend towards decentralization favours the low and medium volume sectors, with companies like Canon, U-Bix, Minolta, and Sharp competing with a myriad of models and modifications.

Some companies, like U-Bix, a subsidiary of the Mitsubishi Corporation, have grown considerably over the last few years, and U-Bix will be launching two new plain paper copiers this month as well as two new desktop machines. U-Bix has a good reputation for after sales service probably because its dealer network is carefully chosen.

Competition also breeds fierce price wars, with even the prices of new copiers being discounted. In trying to maintain profits, more and more, manufacturers are selling through dealers – even companies like Rank Xerox, with a history of established direct sales forces.

More than 90 per cent of the companies surveyed were dissatisfied with reliability and the aftersales maintenance service. Although happier with copy quality, they found that performance was not nearly as good as the makers had claimed it would be. Complaints of deterioration between service calls were also high and many respondents wanted more service visits.

However, it is expensive providing good service back-up. Some dealers complained that manufacturers did not train their sales and service staff sufficiently and with the proliferation of features and gimmicks on machines even the dealers themselves were sometimes not aware of changes to product ranges.

There is such a spectrum of styles on the market from the recently launched AP 1600 auto printer by Ricoh, a Japanese company, which offers reprographic packages for the smaller business; to the world's smallest photocopier, the Sirius PC16 by ACT Office Product, measuring just 16in by 18in by 7.2in. This typewriter-sized model, is, according to Terry Lloyd, managing director of ACT, indicative of "a new trend towards decentralization of office equipment."

These machines will also appeal to the customer whose workload is not so great and who previously would have found it difficult to justify a large machine. Maintenance is virtually eliminated with this type of machine, and one can even get copies in a range of colours, black, brown and blue.

Minolta is also introducing a new range of plain paper copiers at the Copiers '83 exhibition, to be held at the Cunard International Hotel, London W6, May 17-20, and is another example of a Japanese company sweeping the copier market. It is difficult to buy British when considering copiers, and anything that works and which isn't Japanese comes from Germany or the US.

It is well worth having a machine on trial for at least two months before buying, for many machines simply will not do all that the sales literature claims. This is particularly true of the smaller models with a range of features, like pause, reduction, enlargement, mono component toner, and cold pressure fusing.

"Sending an idea around the world in 40 seconds", is the result of what Canon calls the perfect marriage of telephone and copier. A telephone provides instant verbal communication, the copier, instant copies. The new Canon FAX provides both, through copy transmission. The original document is placed on the machine, the recipient is then dialled by phone, and in 40 seconds detailed copies of documents or drawings can be sent over ordinary telephone lines anywhere in the world. The FAX 401 indicates the technology trends in facsimile transceivers which are slowly beginning to make an impact in the world of copiers.

Feeling the pinch

continued from page 18

according to an *International Management* survey of companies and academics round the world, it was confirmed that the "whittling away of middle management" was a general problem.

"Suddenly the corporate world has much less room for the middle managers", says Leyland I. Forst, a principal of management consultants A. T.Kearney in New York, who estimates that middle management positions around the world have declined by 15 per cent on average over the past three years.

A solution to this, according to Parry Rogers, personnel director of Plessey, is to split companies into smaller groups, "This motivates middle managers. So instead of filtering information and preparing decisions for other people to take, middle managers at Plessey have found themselves running their own small businesses in the group, with substantial delegated authority".

Office Planning Consultants (OPC) also endorse the need for corporate strategies at boardroom level when considering the effect of office automation on excutives ... "office planning is often wrongly equated solely with space planning and layout, but properly practised it embraces every aspect of administration, whether it is corporate strategy, systems and procedures, job output or job satisfaction".

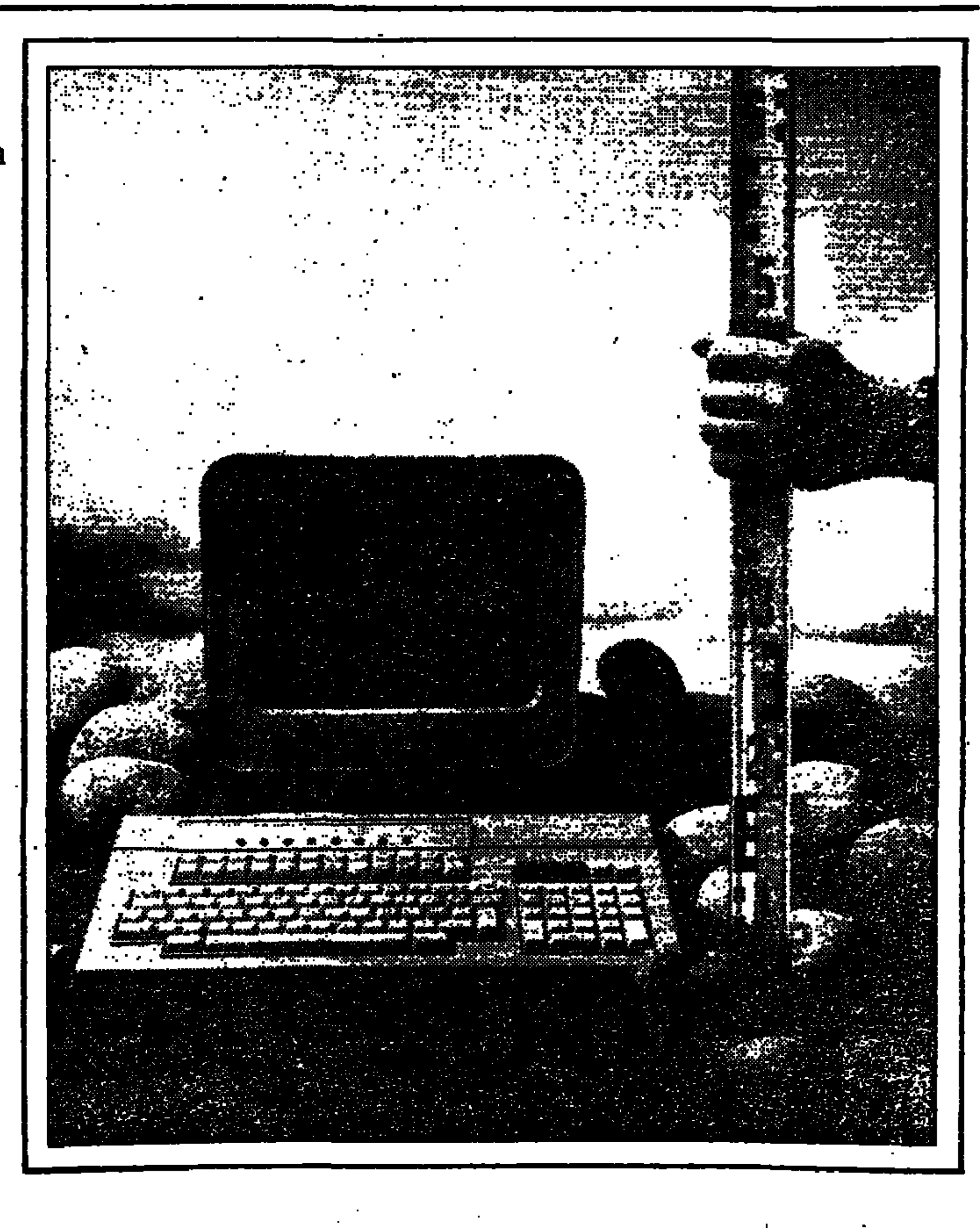
Alan Frost, general manager of Philips Wood Processing, believes that one of the most vexed choices, particularly for the smaller company, is between two competing items of electronic machinery "should one buy a dedicated word processor, or micro computer with a word processing package?"

According to David Burt, "the content of manufacturer's literature is almost all technical, and many excutives wishing to known more about IT may find it uncomfortable to have to contemplate something they do not really understand".

Standard Telephones & Cables have tried to overcome this excutive phobia by having a special demonstration centre in central London which aims to present, in a non-techical way, the merits of office automation for the businessman and the potential of information transfer technology.

There could be another answer: the winner of the Philips Business Systems competition to design the office of 2000 AD had all his IT at his fingertips, in a brief case.

LKT



TELEPHONES

Switching away from cord and plug

The private telephone exchanges operating in Britain today present the greatest range of contrasts in the history of the office.

At one extreme are antique manual switchboards at which an operator sits, plugging office workers into contact with the outside world. Cord-and-plug exchanges, little changed from the 1890s, really do survive in a few old buildings. And manual switchboards of a more recent vintage live on in surprising numbers.

The latest digital PABXs (private automatic branch exchanges) represent the other extreme. They switch both voice and data, within the office and to outside telephones and computer terminals, integrating all communications in a single network. It must be remembered that they still belong to the office of the future: there are fewer integrated digital networks in Britain today than cord and plug.

Remember too that a digital PABX, switching voice and data on conventional telephone lines, is not necessarily the most appropriate system for transmitting information within the office. If the volume of data is high, as for example in a highly *automated office with an* electronic workstation on every desk, a special cable – the local area network – may be required to cope with internal traffic.

The local area network supported by most equipmemt suppliers is Ethernet, developed originally by Xerox. However, there are many other types, and Datapoint's Arc network still leads in the number of installations worldwide.

Digital exchanges switch both data and voice as a series of on-off binary digits (the "bits" of computer code) instead of the continuously varying analogue signals by which the telephone system traditionally transmits speech. The prime advantages of a digital network, apart from voice-data integration, are speed of switching and accuracy of transmission.

Obviously you enjoy those benefits to the full only if every element of your network is digital. Speed and quality inevitably suffer if the signals have to be converted from digital to analogue for part of their journey.

There is no difficulty in installing a fully digital network within a single office, but long distance communications with the outside world are a different matter. The conversion of British Telecom's public telephone network from analogue *to digital switching is just* beginning, with the introduction of the first System X exchanges. Despite the immense investment which BT promises, the job will not be finished until the next century.

However, BT is introducing a new range of digital services for *business under the label X-*stream (in the confusing world of telecommunications the letter X can represent either a symbol for digital or an abbreviation for exchange). Mercury, its competitor, will also offer companies private lines for digital transmission.

So, for the first time, a company can now plan an entirely digital private network within Britain, with electronic PABXs at all its offices and/or factories connected by X-stream lines leased from BT. One of the first companies actually to install an integrated network of *this sort is Blue Circle, which is* spending about £3m on a system with eight large PABXs (SL-1s from GEC's Reliance Systems) and about 50 smaller exchanges (mainly Monarchs from BT).

Under the tidy and uncompetitive arrangement that existed until the current liberalization of the British telecommunications market, BT enjoyed a monopoly on the supply of small PABXs (serving fewer than 100 extensions) which it bought from a select band of manufacturers (GEC, Plessey, STC, TMC and, a recent recruit, Mitel). On the other hand customers purchased large exchanges directly from a few approved manufacturers (foreign companies were excluded unless they agreed to make the equipment in Britain).

Liberalization is beginning to break down the barriers. This year BT loses its sole right to supply small PABXs, though the technical approvals process for new, privately supplied equipment is running so far behind schedule that the real benefits of competition may not be felt until next year.

Purchase prices of BT's smallest exchanges start at about £1,000 for the Senator (made by GEC) and Ensign (TMC), which serve as few as four extensions. Maintenance charges will be at least £15 a quarter. At the other extreme, the largest PABXs with thousands of extensions cost several hundred thousand pounds.

After a thorough analysis of the future prospects during liberalization, the office equipment guide *What to Buy for Business* advised companies not to buy PABXs to take them into the 1990s until "true competition" arrives: "Wait a year or two, and you'll have more to choose between, you'll pay less and you'll get more".

Clive Cookson
Technology Correspondent



Dealers using British Telecom's communications terminal combining telex and computer.

MAIL SERVICE

Coming to the rescue of the daily post

Despite all the forecasts which have been made about the arrival of electronic mail and the disappearance of paper, sending a message from one place to another remains much as it has always been. The message – whether it is an invoice, a sales letter, or anything else – is written on paper, an envelope is addressed, the paper is folded and placed in the envelope, the envelope is stamped or franked, and finally it is posted.

The entire activity is vast. There are 26 million letters and parcels being mailed each day by the business sector in Britain, and handling them all is a highly labour-intensive operation.

Indeed, in many companies the mailroom is the last outpost of the pre-technological age. But if electronics is not yet replacing paper, it is at least coming to the rescue to make mail handling more efficient.

There can be no single answer to mailing efficiency, because mail is generated and delivered in so many different ways. At its simplest, there is a secretary typing letters and putting them in envelopes. There is scope for automation only when all the letters from all the offices throughout a single organization arrive in the mailroom to be posted – usually late in the afternoon.

More amenable to modern handling methods are semi-standard documents like invoices and statements, which can be generated at high speed by computer. They demand equally high-speed mailing techniques if there is not to be a bottleneck.

Finally, there is bulk mailing of sales literature and other promotional material, where the scale of operations means that a whole array of technology can be brought into play: laser printing, automatic folding and insertion, and automatic sorting among them.

For years, many companies have been easing the log-jam in the mailroom by franking everyday post, rather than sticking on stamps. Pitney Bowes, a leading company in mail processing, estimates that the UK market for meter franking is worth about £20m, with 135,000 users.

Electronics is now being applied to this aspect of mail processing in a big way. Pitney Bowes has introduce a postage meter which can be hooked up to other pieces of equipment, such as scales and accounting systems. By linking a parcel scale to the meter, for example, the weight is automatically converted into the cost, and a correctly printed postage label is produced.

The chore of taking the postage meter to the nearest Post Office when the credit level expires, so that the meter can be reset, is also on the way out. Pitney Bowes has introduced a system called RMRS (Remote Meter Resetting System), which allows postage re-crediting to be carried out by phoning a computer from the office or mailroom. This takes only 90 seconds, compared with an average of 40 minutes for the return trip to the Post Office.

Centralization computer printouts and mailing operations can result in some impressive savings. One company which took this course estimates that it reduces it 1982 postage bill by about £20,000. Another user, this time a local water authority, has invested £100,000 in systems of this type, but it expects the cost to be recouped withing two years.

One example of the advantages which modern equipment can provide is the sorting of outgoing mail by post-code. As the Post Office offers discounts of up to 30 per cent on the postage for mail sorted in this way, there are immediate hard-cash benefits.

Some off these systems are only applicable to large organizations with substantial volumes of mail, but other equipment has been designed for the smaller user. A recently introduced machine is small enough to stand on a table-top, and will automatically insert invoices, statements, and direct mail literature into envelopes.

Equipment is also on the market which can take care of folding, envelope sealing, labelling, and other types of paper handling.

Once mailing operations move to true bulk volumes, such as are found in direct mail, several more high-technology products can be brought into play. The capital investment is likely to be high, but these days direct mail is very big business indeed.

A key element in much of this type of mailing is the laser printer which combines computer technology with lasers and electrophotography. Instead of using metal type or filmsetting, a laser printer creates characters electronically and holds them in the form of software. The image is created by laser beams using a high-quality dot matrix method, with the characters being formed first on the surface of a photoconductor drum, and then transferred to a continuous web of paper.

Although laser printing equipment is costly – a system from Sperry, for example, costs about £200,000 for the basic configuration – many bulk mail users find this worth while. There is an extremely wide range of founts and other images available, and varying information can by introduced during printing runs. It is not necessary to have special stationery or pre-printed forms.

An example or laser printing in practice is the Post Office's Royal Mail Electronic Post, which combines laser techniques with computer transmission and hand delivery. This allows text and addresses to be sent electronically over long distances, and then printed and delivered locally.

All the Post Office needs is the text of the message and a list of addresses on magnetic tape, logos and signatures where necessary, and the required delivery date. The information is transmitted digitally over normal telephone lines. At the receiving end, the signals are converted, and used to print the letters and addresses by laser. The letters are then inserted into envelopes automatically, and are delivered by the postman in the usual way.

Pitney Bowes' managing director, John Moody, believes that far from declining, there will be even more paper in the office of the future than there is today. "The use of paper in business is still growing at 4 per cent per year", he says, "and if this growth continues there will be twice as much paper in our offices by the year 2000".

Even so, there are developments under way which could mean that although paper survives, mailing as we know it enters a period of drastic change. Already increasing numbers of businesses are transmitting uggent documents by facsimile, in which the input and output is on paper, but the actual transmission is electronic.

British Telecom will also shortly be introducing teletex, a kind of super-telex which will allow a secretary to type a letter *on a word-porcessing terminal,* which could be anywhere in the world.

Unlike telex, teletex offers a full character set and an A4 layout, so letter-quality messages can be sent. Teletex will be faster than telex, and cheaper than either telex or mail. It is expected that an A4 page of 1,500 characters will cost a maximum of 4p for the United Kingdom mainland, compared with 30p for telex and 16p for first-class mail – the latter offering only next-day delivery.

Beyond fax and teletex are the fully electronic systems, in which messages are created, sent, stored, and displayed without any paper being used at all. Electronic mail systems exist today, and many users have found them of value, particularly as a method of inter-office communication which is more effective than the time-honoured memo.

But while fully electronic systems will continue to make inroads, the effect on traditional mailing methods based on paper is likely to be slight, at least for several years to come. What office mamagements will see, though, is an increasing variety of more advanced electronic aids to handle that paper more effectively.

RW

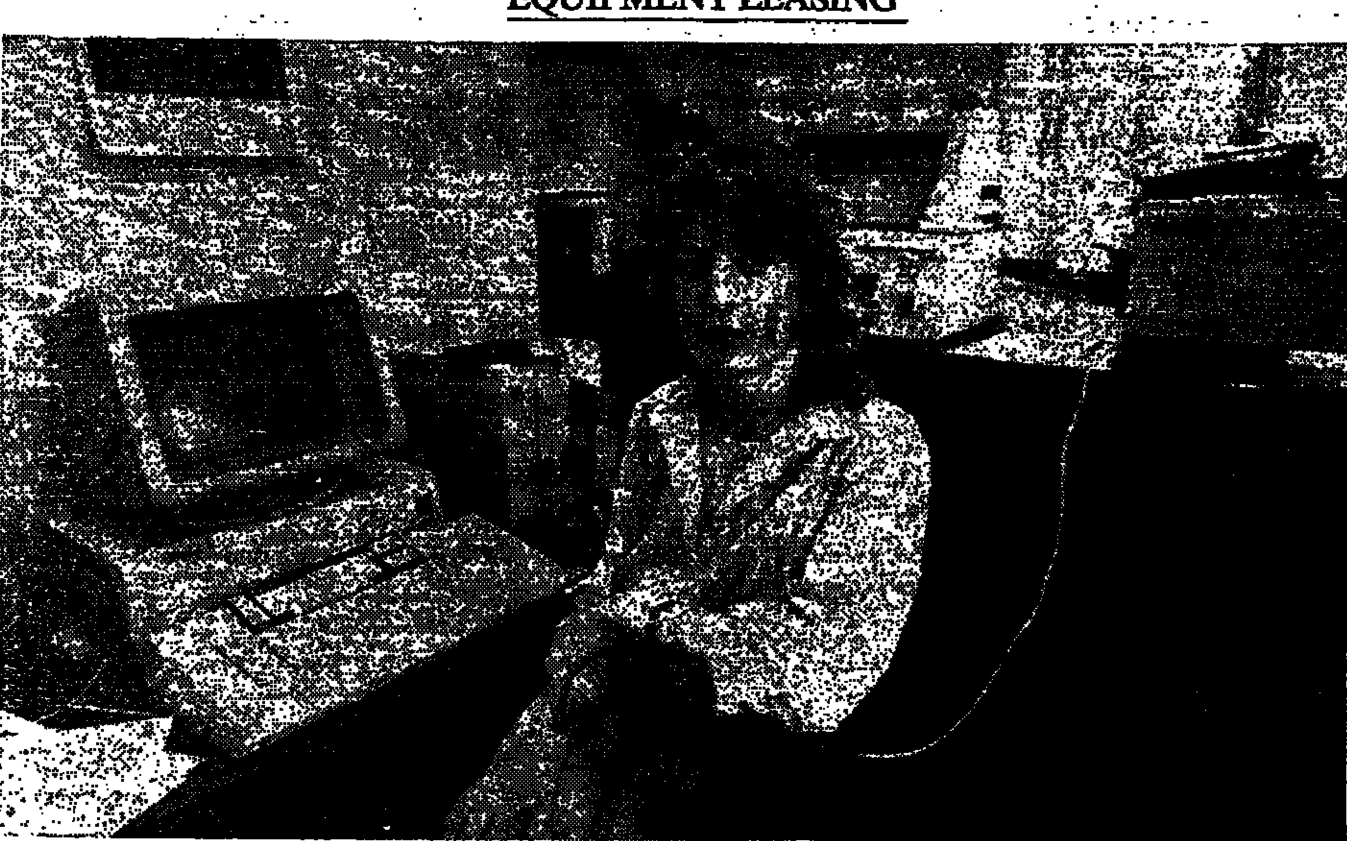


Handling the mail with the Pitney Bowes telephone computer system.

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TODAY'S OFFICE

EQUIPMENT LEASING



Pam Ayscough: 'once you have leased it you're stuck with it'

Making sure about the small print

The year 1982 saw a ten year record for the equipment leasing industry. According to the latest available annual report of the Equipment Leasing Association (ELA) computer and office equipment leasing continued buoyant and, at £447m, showed an increase of 26 per cent over the previous year.

When Sir Geoffrey Howe addressed the association last year, he emphasized that the growth of leasing has kept investment in the economy at a higher level than would otherwise be the case. In the UK more than 11 per cent of all new capital investment is financed by way of leasing, and despite the problems of recession and unemployment, the UK *accounts for a third of the total* European leasing market.

The association admits that leasing offers an attractive alternative source of funding for companies, and there has been an increasing trend towards larger and longer transactions – in 1982 50 per cent by value of all leases were for terms exceeding five years. Many groups, including some of the largest blue chip companies which had previously used leasing mainly for smaller items of plant and equipment, turned in 1982 to leasing as a source of *finance for much larger items.* Had leasing facilities not been available, it is unlikely, says the association that "that investment by industry during the recession would have taken place on such a scale".

Though leasing is not new – its origins can be traced back to the middle of the nineteenth century mainly in the coal and rail industries – it was not until 1980 that the importance of financial leasing as an alternative to hire purchase and loan facilities was acknowledged. Sir Geoffrey Howe, in his 1980 *budget speech, said that leasing* finance "has become an important – in many cases essential – source of finance for investment in manufacturing industry".

In equipment leasing, as practised by members of the ELA, the actual supplier of the equipment is entirely independent of the lessor and the equipment is chosen by the user who then negotiates a lease. Leasing companies are not the equipment vendors or manufacturers, but rather financial institutions who are in business to lease items of capital equipment, which their customers wish to use.

Leasing agreements can be very complicated documents and often many lessees sign them without fully realising the commitments and compromises. One reason is the eagerness of the lessee to acquire the *equipment, usually at a time* when there is a lack of ready cash available.

Although some lessees have said that leasing does away with concerns over obsolescence as the lease agreement can provide for a replacement machine as soon as technology development offer a significant advantage, a cursory sample taken last week revealed that many had leasing agreements which prohibited cancellation in favour of replacement or upgrading of models.

Pam Ayscough, who runs PA *Secretarial Services*, highlights some of the problems she has encountered with leasing, saying "once you have leased it, you're stuck with it." She has been left with a word processor which did not come up to standards of expectation or performance. She complains *that the leasing charge does not* always cover all the extras necessary – paper. feeders, accoustic hood, software, memory capacity, maintenance, insurance, printwheels, diskettes, ribbons, training manuals and so on. On signing a leasing agreement, one should ensure that the cost includes training, for if one has to pay extra to be sent on a training course, this adds further expense, which "can paralyse the cash flow".

Miss Ayscough encounters the same problems when leasing *photocopiers, and insists that* seldom does the leasing charge include the charge per copy. . . . "This can be substantial if *dealing in large quantities even* though it may sound small when the manufacturer is talking of the charge for just one copy. In the excitement and eagerness to exchange contracts and get the equipment, one forgets all the extra costs such as collating accessories, supply paper and after sales service."

She, like other members in the survey, felt that rental or outright purchase were preferable so long as these options did not put a strain on the company's borrowing power or cash flow.

The rule of thumb appears to be to ensure that leasing agreements contain as much of *these add-on* costs as possible, particularly maintenance and insurance charges. The higher the cost of the equipment being sought, the more likely leasing offers attractions over outright purchase, with the former not involving considerable capital outlay. But some individuals in the survey felt the advantages of leasing "did not come free". The lessor always owned the machine, and therefore it can never be shown as one of the lessee's assets, and usually "the lessee is not allowed to sell the equipment". The fact that the costs of leasing agreements are not normally shown on the balance sheet, and that they are "disguised debts" does offer the possibility, and danger, that they will become forgotten liabilities.

A careless company could find injudicious leasing agreements contributing to overcommitment. Once a lease is taken on, the company is committed regardless of its fortunes. Leases may be the ideal way for a company to use the most effective technology, but they require a continuing awareness and the same self-control as a personal credit card.

Many companies regard a lease as a continuous drain on resources, but the ELA would see them as self-financing, because the resultant increased efficiency generates income to meet the charges and costs.

Initially though, it may be more prudent to rent the equipment on trial, and only commit the company when confident of its competence and cost.

Lynda King Taylor

SATELLITES

Getting messages from above

The network of satellites over the equator launched for the International Satellite Organization (Intelsat) has been described as a communications girdle round the Earth. Those spacecraft have made McLuhan's concept of the "global village" a reality by bringing disasters like earthquakes and famine; the politics of Eastern Europe and Central America, and international sporting and entertainment events into the living room.

Directed broadcasting satellites (DBS) will soon bounce signals direct to the viewers' television set. But this revolution brought by satellite technology is not confined to the domestic services for television and telephone subscribers. Business and industry are reaping benefits that will become increasingly noticeable.

Telecommunication links have provided the channel for rapid exchanges of digital data between highspeed computers, often in different countries. The route over which computer data or a telephone call is carried between say, Birmingham, England, and Birmingham, Alabama, could be a mixture of terrestrial cable, transatlantic satellite and radio link.

Until recently those details were of little significance to the subscriber. Now there is a surge of interest by large commercial and industrial firms in the prospects of by-passing the telephone network and transmitting voice and data over special satellite networks.

The stimulus for space communications applied to industry and commerce began in the United States with the formation of *Satellite Business* Systems (SBS), a jointly owned company of IBM, Aetna Life and Comsat.

In the past most satellite systems operated at a frequency designed to allow the space link to be tied-in without difficulty to the terrestrial connexion which distributed signals from ground stations to the subscribers.

Many of the current designs of satellites use a new technology and higher frequencies of operation that allow signals virtually to pepper the terrain beneath without interference.

Small antennae are placed on customers' premises, and as far as the subscriber is concerned the signals arriving at that *address make it look as if the* satellite conveying them is dedicated solely to that purpose. In fact, it merely means the receiver is filtering out only those messages with the right address code.

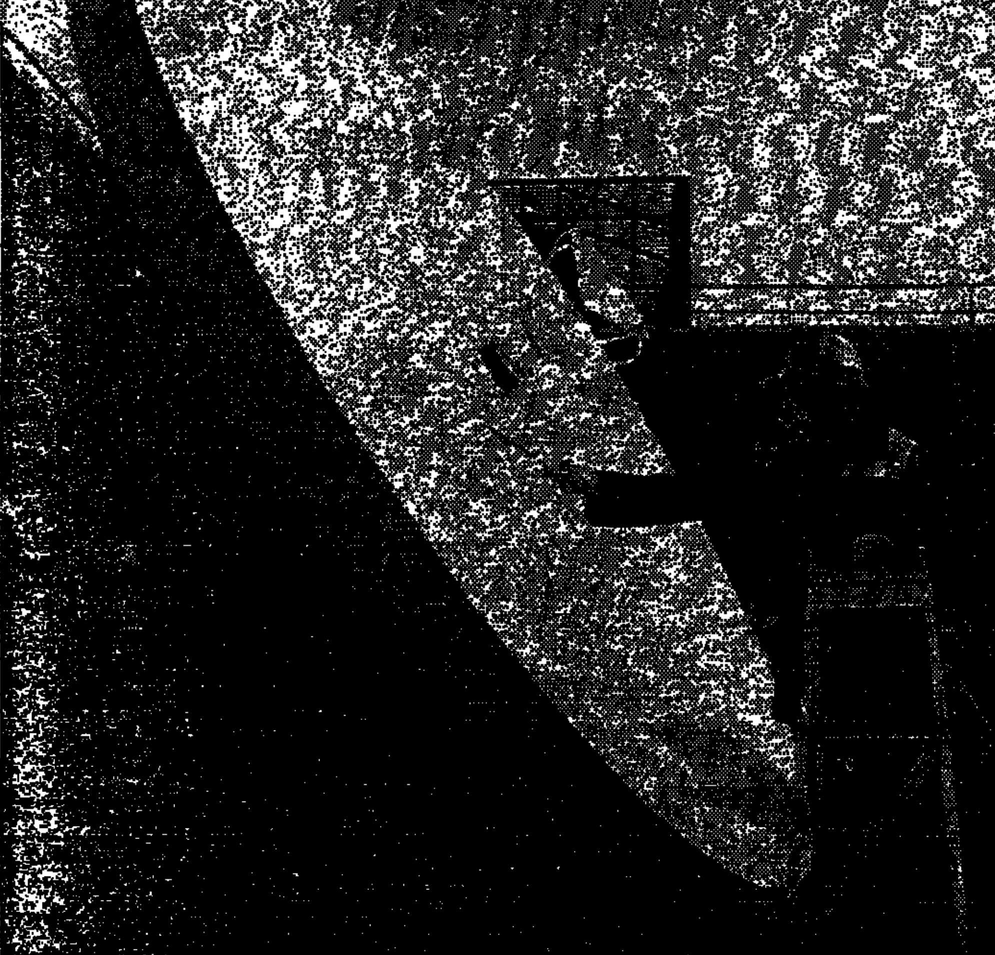
High-speed computer-to-computer data transmissions via this type of satellite are rare. Nevertheless, in the United States newspapers like the *Wall Street Journal* would be almost impossible to deliver without satellites to transmit copy for remote printing. International news magazines like *Time* are in the same position, and *The Economist* uses the technology to supply copy from the UK for its important North American circulation.

Direct receiving antennae are therefore sprouting on the roofs of office blocks and on the edge of industrial estates for collective use across the US. The services in use cover television conferencing and the electronic distribution of mail; in addition to telephone and computer traffic.

Innovation moves more rapidly in the US because of an "open skies" policy which allows a large number of competing satellite services. There are eight American vendors with satellites in orbit, and three of them specialize in business services. Furthermore, a subscriber can buy satellite services in bulk and resell the unused capacity.

An agreement between SBS and British Telecom can open some of these advantages to the multinational firms. Although business exploitation in Europe is at an embryo stage, the potential savings are there. Large manufacturers or banking and insurance companies in Britain have terrestrial communications networks consisting of thousands of circuits, and those links are paid for according to distance. Earth stations must become an increasingly attractive substitute on price and reliability grows.

Pearce Wright
Science Editor



A small dish aerial on the roof of British Telecom's research centre at Martlesham

TODAY'S OFFICE

VISION

Shedding a bit of light on the subject



Douglas Mutch: reflections on the screen spoil the job.

Lighting engineers have developed a variety of alternatives to traditional office lighting which, they claim, can cut running costs by up to half. Since lighting can account for as much as 30 per cent of the total energy consumed by an office building, the potential savings can be substantial. In addition the new lighting systems offer economies in maintenance and replacement costs. The problem which office managers face is in selecting which of the rival systems best fits the work methods and style of particular premises and in balancing capital outlay against operating savings.

Earlier works' managers did not face the same dilemma. The banks of glaring fluorescent tubes which were a universal feature of offices built in the 1950s and 1960s were available initially only under post-war quotas from the United States. Translated from designs used for factory work their main advantage was that they were considerably brighter than the 60 watt bulbs which, in many instances, they replaced. They were also extremely durable. Many of the fittings installed more than 30 years ago are still in operation.

The sudden focus on energy costs in the mid 1970s unlocked innovation from a variety of areas – in lamp technology, design of fittings and, thanks to the microprocessor, increasingly in switches and control mechanisms. In designing the new office systems the lighting engineers, who maintain that their profession is as much an art as a science, drew on experiences from the theatre and shop window displays as well as industry. A bewildering variety of new techniques each fervently backed by rival experts has resulted.

Arousing most controversy currently is "uplighting" a method which, as its name suggests, directs light up to rather than down from the ceiling – rather like medieval torches. High intensity lamps of the new high pressure sodium discharge or metal halide type are mounted on walls or inserted in the top of freestanding units which can also be used as furniture. It results in a soft umbrella of light bounced back from the ceiling which most people find aesthetically pleasant.

The uplighting technique which is a very old one has come into vogue for advanced modern offices mainly because of its advantage in eliminating reflections from computer screens. Since the light source is concealed there is no glare.

The main controversy centres on efficiency in energy use. Uplighting systems have not been in general operation for long enough to prove that indirect light alone is sufficient for the majority of office workers – particularly those aged 45 and upwards who generally require higher light intensities than their younger colleagues.

Philips, the world's largest lamp maker, says it "does not approve of uplighting when it is presented as having energy-saving potential; that the high-intensity light sources used are at best only slightly more efficient than the new fluorescent lamps; and as much as 60 per cent of their output can be lost in reflection from even a good ceiling." Although it adds that "Of course uplighters have a role in decorative lighting".

Nevertheless uplighting is being used for a variety of office work in new developments. These include the new Trustee Savings Bank headquarters at Andover, which has installed Thorn EMI Lighting uplights and Barclays Bank at Hemel Hempstead which has Courtney, Pope Lighting Torchier uplights. At Barclays, individual desk lamps were also installed, but according to Mr Douglas Mutch, a director of Courtney, Pope the ambient light appears to have been sufficient. Commenting about the difficulties in removing heat generated by this type of system Mr Mutch says: "You are probably prepared to pay the penalty in air conditioning if you operate with VDU's because no matter how cool and comfortable the room is, if you've got reflections on that screen you can't do your job".

Another, less controversial solution which is being offered to the problem of reflections off VDU's and microfische and other vertical screens is a new type of integral ceiling fitting. Bare fluorescent lamps are mounted in a trough in the ceiling. Louvres of slats of polished material bounce light sideways off the trough sides before releasing it downwards into the office. The system is remarkably efficient since most of the light generated eventually reaches the working surface from the bare tube. In traditional light fittings opal diffusers and even the newer prismatic reflectors can cut out a quarter or more of the total light output emitted from the lamp.

If combined with recent developments in lamp technology the cost savings from the new types of fitting can be dramatic. Philips reckons that its new Triphosphor TLD lamps can cut lighting costs by about 50 per cent. The TLD lamp is only 1 inch in diameter compared with about 1½ inches for a conventional lamp and uses krypton instead of argon as a gas filling. Another new development manufactured by both Thorn and Philips are the compact fluorescents which can be plugged into most filament lighting points, last five times longer than a conventional bulb, and use a fraction of the electricity to provide the same amount of light.

A wide variety of microprocessor-inspired new developments have taken place in remote controls, automatic time switches and dimmers. Some of these can be used automatically to turn unwanted office lights off near sunny windows, portable infra-red control boxes (similar to those used for television sets) could turn office lights on or off up or down. Lights can be dialled up or down via the office telephone.

However, before getting too carried away by new technology it might pay the energy conscious works manager to look at the mundane matter of cleaning existing light fittings. Experts calculate that dirt can cut light by more than 20 per cent.

Patricia Tisdall

STORAGE

Filing away

"Don't file it – I may want to look at it again" runs the old office joke, but its days may be numbered. From the humble cabinet to advanced microfilm systems, and from electronic storage to optical disks read by lasers, office filing is going through a revolution which could mean that the overstaffed drawer bulging with ragged carbon copies may soon become a thing of the past.

Many offices will never see the more advanced technologies, and will continue to rely on paper files, but even here there are better ways of doing things. Today, the variety of material which has to be stored is far more varied than in the past, and designers of office furniture have risen to the challenge.

A key feature of today's office filing systems is flexibility. One company specializing in filing and storage, Flexiform, points out that as more organizations use electornic office equipment, so the needs have expanded beyond document filing to take in computer printout, microfiche, and other output from data-processing machines.

As a result, a system has been developed which takes care of both general filing requirements, and the more specialized needs of the computerized office. The interior of cabinets can be planned in several ways, and redesigned as filing systems change.

Another office supplier, Lucas Furniture Systems, has developed personal filing systems built into desks: in this case, people who lose files can blame only themselves. Other freestanding units can accommodate computer printout, tape spools and disk packs, as well as traditional filing.

Often it is the sheer volume of information which causes problems of retrieval. Quite apart from taking up a lot of space, bulk files can present difficulties in indexing. If annotation is too simple, information retrieval can be very time-consuming and perhaps ineffective. At the other extreme, over-elaboration can lead to a vast number of indexes and cross-references which soon defeat their object.

It is for these reasons that micrographics is expected to have such a bright future. One of the companies offering a microfilming service, MAB, estimates that up to 98 per cent of filing space can be released for other uses by adopting microfilm or microfiche. A single unit, occupying the same space as a normal four-drawer cabinet, can hold more than 1,750,000 documents or 57,000 drawings.

Microfilm and microfiche systems not only reduce bulky paper files to manageable proportions, they also lend themselves to indexing which can make information retrieval much quicker.

A technology known as computer-assisted retrieval (CAR) marries micrographics with computing systems based on the microprocessor. The business research organization, Frost & Sullivan, has estimated that the US market for electronic filing and CAR micrographics should increase at least 35 per cent each year up to 1987, to reach $356.22m.

Kodak is considered to have the largest share of the CAR market, and its Oracle microfilm equipment is an example of what the technology can offer. Documents are filmed as they arrive in random order, after only a single rough-sort. Each one is allocated an eight-digit code, which appears under the page. To retrieve information, the microfilm is loaded into a reader, the appropriate code number is entered on a keyboard, and the document is located automatically in only a few seconds. If a copy is required, the machine can handle that, too.

A British company, Allen Microfilm products (AMP), has developed a random retrieval reader with the help of the Department of Industry. The motorized reader is linked to a microprocessor-based keypad, known as the Blip Chip. By entering the required frame number, a single image our of 2,400 can be retrieved in a time between one and 40 seconds. This equipment will later be linked to a reader-printer, and finally to a computer, to make a complete CAR system.

As an increasing quantity of office information is created electronically, files can be stored and retrieved without any intermediate use of paper records. The OFIS 1 system of Burroughs, which is undergoing trials with the Central Electricity Generating Board as part of the Department of Industry's automated office project, includes the creation of documents electronically by word processor, and storage in the OFISfile system.

This approach to electronic filing and retrieval can also accept output from ordinary typewriters, which is first passed through an optical character recognition reader. To locate a document, OFISfile needs only an instruction phrased in plain language, containing a name, date, of other words in the text being sought. The equipment is about the size of a small office filing cabinet, but can store the equivalent of 80,000 A4 pages of text – 160 million characters.

Rather more modest in its capacity, but useful at locations such as telephone switchboards, is an information storage and retrieval system offered by Interscan Communication Systems. This is essentially an electronic discovery, which can be accessed inseveral ways. It can store more than 5,000 entries, and will display the required information in less than two seconds, even if interrogated with data which is incomplete.

For mass storage of information, there are great hopes of optical systems. Technically, there are various approaches to optical storage, though most companies use laser beams to read data which has been encoded digitally on a disk about the size of a long-play record.

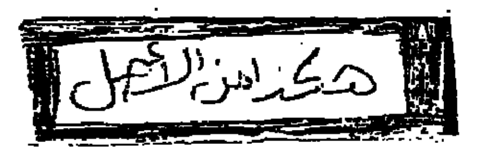
The thing that gives optical storage its edge over other techniques is sheer capacity. With Philips's Megadoc optical recorder, a single disk can store 2500 A4 pages of a document scanned in the normal way. But if the information is compressed by removing all the white space, storage can be increased to 50,000 pages.

The optical disk has been seen as a mass storage medium, which could be used for archives which users wish to consult, but not change. But this limited concept was turned on its head by the announcement last April from Matsushita of Japan that it has developed an optical disk on which data can be erased and re-recorded millions of times.

It has a maximum capacity of 1,000 million characters, and the longest time required to access any part of the stored data is less than half-a-second.

It is a long way from the grubby green filing cabinet groaning with out-of-date papers to the sleek laser disks encoded with megabytes of information, and although it may be time to pension off the cabinet, no one suggests that the highest of high-tech will take over completely.

RW



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1983 CARGO PRODUCT FEATURES S = STANDARD O = OPTIONAL	MODELS* 0609.0709.0809.	0711.0713.0811. 0813.	0911 – 1613.	1615.	1617.	2517.2817.	2417.	1520.1620.2420. 2820.3220.
8-SPEED GEARBOX AND APPROPRIATE AXLE	–	–	O	S	S	O	O	–
POWER ASSISTED CLUTCH	–	–	–	–	S	S	S	S
POWER ASSISTED STEERING	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
LAMINATED WINDSHIELD	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
STEERING COLUMN LOCK	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
THERMOVISCOUS FAN	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
REVERSING LAMP	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
MULTIPURPOSE SOCKET/CIGAR LIGHTER	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S

*The model identification numbers denote nominal GVM and nominal BHP e.g. 1615 = 16.25 tonnes GVM, 153 BHP engine. Effective savings referred to are a comparison of todays maximum retail price of the latest specification Cargo model, compared with the maximum retail list price of a similarly equipped model in September 1982.

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Divisional Court

Parking car is no reason for not banning driver

Haime v Walklett

Before Lord Justice Ackner and Mr Justice Glidewell

[Judgment delivered May 11]

The facts that a driver had merely reversed across a street, and intended to drive a further two hundreds yards, park his car and return home on foot were not capable of amounting to special reasons for not disqualifying him pursuant to section 93(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1972 where he was guilty of driving having consumed excess alcohol contrary to section 6 of the Act.

The Queen's Bench Divisional court so held in allowing an appeal by way of case stated by the prosecutor against a decision of the Uttoxeter Justices not to disqualify the defendant, David Robert Walklett, from driving after he was convicted of driving with excess alcohol in his blood contrary to section 6 of the Road Traffic Act 1972.

Mr Patrick McCahill for the prosecutor; Mr Steven Redmond for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE ACKNER said that the defendant was seen by a police officer on July 1, 1981 to attempt to reverse his car across a street. The car's engine stalled twice, and twice mounted the pavement coming to rest where the police officer stood. The vehicle was not displaying lights.

The officer administered a breath test which proved positive, and a subsequent blood test at the police station indicated an excess concentration of alcohol in the defendant's blood, in the ratio of 204mg per 100ml of blood.

He was convicted before the justices under section 6 of the 1972 Act. The defendant stated that he knew that he was drunk, that his intention was to drive the car two hundred yards to a car park, leave the vehicle there and walk home.

The justices accepted that the shortness of the distance actually driven, couple with the defendant's intention, were special reasons for not disqualifying the defendant under section 93(1) of the 1972 Act.

The court had been referred to the case of *Coombs v Kehoe* ([1972] 1 WLR 797), which had decided that the case of *James v Hall* (*The Times*, June 26, 1968), in which the defendant had moved his car from the road into his friend's driveway, and in which the justices had held that that constituted a special reason not to disqualify him, was one which should be confined to its own facts and should not be interpreted as stating a principle that parking a car was a special reason for not disqualifying.

It was difficult to distinguish this case from *Coombes v Kehoe*, save in so far as here there was no finding that the road on which the defendant was driving was a busy one. However, if it was sufficiently busy that there should be a public house there, it could not be said that the defendant's driving across the road would not constitute a danger.

The justices had therefore erred in law in holding that there were special reasons for not disqualifying the defendant. The appeal would be allowed.

Mr Justice Glidewell agreed.

Solicitors: Beswick & Co, Stoke-on-Trent; Walters & Welch, Stafford.

Same justices should rectify mistakes

Morris v Grant

Before Lord Justice Ackner and Mr Justice Glidewell

[Judgment delivered May 11]

Where justices exercised their power under section 142 of the Magistrates' Court Act 1980 to reopen proceedings to rectify a mistake made in passing sentence, the rehearing should be before the same bench of justices, and where three or more justices had sat, a majority had to sit at the rehearing.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in allowing an appeal by Peter Charles George Morris by way of case stated by the Walton-on-Thames Justices on the question whether they were entitled to exercise their power under section 142 of the 1980 Act so as to vary a sentence passed by a differently constituted bench of justices.

Mr Allen Dyer for the defendant; Mr J. Mervyn Roberts for the prosecutor.

LORD JUSTICE ACKNER said that the defendant was convicted before the justices of an offence of driving while under the influence of drink or drugs contrary to section 5(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1972.

He was fined £100, and his driving licence was endorsed with 10 penalty points, in purported pursuance of section 19 and Schedule 7 of the Transport Act 1981.

The justices later realized that they should have disqualified the defendant from driving for a minimum of 12 months under section 93(1) of the 1972 Act.

They served a notice upon him that the case would be reopened. At the rehearing the bench consisted of three justices, only one of whom had sat at the original hearing.

They fined the defendent £100 and disqualified him from driving for 12 months with no reference to penalty points.

According to section 142(4)(a) of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, the court had to be constituted in the same manner as the court by which the original sentence was imposed. That meant that the same justices should sit.

Under subsection (b), where three or more justices had sat, as was the case here, a majority of them must have sat at the original hearing.

In this case that had not been done, so that the appeal would be allowed, so as to restore the original decision.

Mr Justice Glidewell agreed.

Solicitors: Amery-Parkes & Co; Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

Defaulting ratepayer should be heard before committal

Regina v Poole Justices, Ex parte Fleet

Before Mr Justice Forbes

[Judgment delivered May 5]

On an application for a warrant for committal to prison of a ratepayer who had failed to pay rates for which he was liable, justices were always under a duty to inquire in the ratepayer's presence as to whether his failure to pay had been because of wilful refusal or culpable neglect on his part, before they considered the issue of such a warrant.

Mr Justice Forbes so held in the Queen's Bench Division, granting an application by Mr Derek Arthur Lucas Fleet for judicial review by way of certiorari and mandamus to quash the issue by the Poole Justices on January 12, 1983 of a warrant of commitment against him under section 102 of the General Rate Act 1967 and to direct the justices to make an inquiry in the applicant's presence pursuant to section 103(1)(a) of the 1967 Act before considering the issue of any further such warrant.

Mr John Bryant for the applicant; the justices did not appear and were not represented.

MR JUSTICE FORBES said that the applicant had been in considerable financial difficulties. The rating authority had sought a warrant of commitment in December 1982 and the justices had at that time conducted an inquiry in accordance with section 103(1)(a) of the 1967 Act and had postponed the issue of a warrant on the condition that the applicant paid £50 per week to the rating authority.

They had, however, fixed the term of imprisonment which he would be required to serve if a warrant were ever issued.

Having paid £50 for several weeks, the applicant had found himself in further financial difficulties which rendered payment impossible.

He had written to the justices' clerk to that effect, but upon a fresh application for a warrant in January 1983, the justices had issued the warrant without making an inquiry in the applicant's presence as to the reason for his failure to pay.

In *R v Chichester Justices, Ex parte Collins* ([1982] 1 WLR 334), it had been held that justices had no duty to inform an offender before a warrant of commitment was issued for non-payment of fines where its issue had previously been postponed under section 77(2) of the Magistrates Courts Act 1980 on conditions which the offender had then failed to fulfil.

However, in his Lordship's judgment, the decision in that case did not apply to cases under the 1967 Act, since in rating cases it was necessary for the rating authority to prove to the court the failure to pay before the warrant was issued; in cases concerning fines, all that was necessary was to consult the court records to see whether the fines had been paid into court or not.

The situation under section 102 of the 1967 Act was sufficiently different from that under section 77 of the 1980 Act for his Lordship to apply a dictum of Lord Fraser of Tullybelton in *In re Forrest* ([1981] AC 1038, 1045) and to hold that the justices were obliged to conduct an inquiry in the applicant's presence with regard to his reason for non-payment when considering an application for a warrant of commitment against him.

Accordingly, certiorari would issue to quash the justices' decision and mandamus would go to direct the justices, if the rating authority applied again for such a warrant, to conduct an inquiry as required by section 103(1)(a) of the 1967 Act.

Solicitors: Metson Cross & Co for Triggs Turner & Co, Guildford.

Chancery Division

Council to pay £25,000 for bad faith in property deal

Bremer v Haringey London Borough Council

Before Mr Vivian Price, QC

[Judgment delivered May 6]

The plaintiff in this action, Mr Ronnie John Bremer, was held by Mr Vivian Price, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge of the Chancery Division, entitled to succeed in a claim for £25,735 damages against the London Borough of Haringey because of their breach of duty in failing to negotiate with him in all good faith for the acquisition of his interest in 15 Crescent Road, Hornsey, London.

He had claimed that they had failed to comply with the terms of a purchase notice under section 180 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 relating to the property and had not proceeded to enforce within a reasonable period a notice to treat.

Mr P R Brunner for the plaintiff; Mr John Grove for the defendants.

HIS LORDSHIP said that following the refusal of an application for planning permission, the plaintiff's solicitors in March 1975 served a notice under section 180 of the 1971 Act requiring the defendants to purchase his freehold interest in 15 Crescent Road.

On May 12 the defendants' solicitors wrote that they were willing to comply with the plaintiff's purchase notice and the plaintiff regarded that letter as a notice to treat in respect of the property.

There were negotiations and correspondence between the parties from then until 1977, when a valuation put on the property by a representative of the plaintiff was rejected by the defendants, and there was a lapse in the negotiations leading the plaintiff to an inference that the defendants had not any intention to pursue their rights under the notice to treat. But in 1979 notices of entry were served on the plaintiff under Part VIII of the Housing Act 1974, in effect reopening the question of the purchase of the property.

In proceedings begun that year by the plaintiff he was granted a declaration by Judge Rubin on November 26, 1980 that the notice to treat of 1975 was no longer effective, also that the notices of entry served by the defendants were of no effect.

The plaintiff's case was founded on a claim that the long negotiations for the acquisition of the plaintiff's interest in the property had not been conducted by the defendants in all good faith and that they had acted negligently and in breach of a duty so to act by not complying with the terms of the notice to treat or proceeding to enforce it within a reasonable period of time or at all.

It had been asserted on behalf of the plaintiff – and without contradiction by counsel for the defendants – that there was a duty to negotiate in all good faith for the acquisition of the plaintiff's property.

Particulars had been given of the loss and damage said to have been suffered by him in the way of lost rental and of rates paid on vacant property also of the cost of a report which had been made for him on a possible rental income from letting.

A similar report on the defendants' side was not tendered despite an interlocutory order that reports for both parties should be prepared.

The plaintiff had said in evidence he had expected that the whole result from the negotiations for purchase would have meant merely putting them before a committee of the council for approval. Because of that, he had committed himself to the spending of a lot of money, and the details he provided of his expenditure had not been seriously challenged.

Counsel for the defendants had called no evidence, which seemed an extraordinary way of defending an action in which allegations of bad faith had been made against them. He had relied instead on a series of instructive and illuminating submissions both on the law and the facts, which had helped to clarify the issues to be decided.

The strongest of his submissions was one saying that even if the defendants had failed in their duty it did not give the plaintiff a right to a remedy in damages.

It seemed from the documents before the court that from 1977 onwards the defendants had not acted in good faith for the acquisition of the plaintiff's interest.

The documents showed a reprehensible degree of bad faith which was confirmed by the defendants' failure to produce any explanation of their conduct by appropriate evidence. It seemed therefore that the plaintiff was entitled to succeed in his claim.

As to the estimated figures for lost rental in respect of the property, the plaintiff's figures would be accepted by the court, although admittedly unsatisfactory, since the defendants, despite the interlocutory order, had failed to produce any.

Solicitors: T. Richards & Co; Mr T. R. B. Tiernay, Wood Green.

Petition an abuse of process

In re a Company (No 001573 of 1983)

Before Mr Justice Harman

[Judgment delivered May 6]

His Lordship dismissed as an abuse of the process of the court a petition in the Chancery Division to wind up a company where an order for costs against the company had been obtained in the morning and the petition was issued the same afternoon, based on the prospective debt created by the order for costs and on other evidence suggesting insolvency.

Mr L J Libbert, QC and Mr John B. Briggs for the company; Mr Jeffrey Littman for the petitioner.

MR JUSTICE HARMAN said the company moved to restrain the petitioner from advertising the petition, and to have the petition dismissed as an abuse of process.

The company carried on business by recovering coal from a site in south Scotland under a lease which was the company's major asset. The company was in grave financial difficulties.

Following the breakdown of negotiations with the petitioner for the assignment of the lease, the petitioner negotiated direct with the landlord for the grant of a new lease.

The company's lease contained the term, remarkable to English eyes, that the lease would be "irritated" (which his Lordship assumed meant "forfeited") if a petition to wind up the company were presented.

The petitioner's agreement with the landlord provided that if a petition were presented before April 1, 1983, the landlord would terminate the lease and grant a new one to the petitioner. It was thus very much in the petitioner's interest that the petition should be presented before that date.

On February 10, 1983 the petitioner served a statutory demand for payment of about £2,700.

The company adopted the wholly wrong and improper course of beginning an action in the Chancery Division to restrain the petitioner from proceeding on its statutory demand, on the ground that the debt was disputed. That was false and unjustified, but an interim order restraining presentation was obtained.

However, as a result of advice from the company's solicitors the debt was paid in full on March 14 and on March 15 the company's action was dismissed with costs.

On the same day, the order for costs having been made in the morning, the petitioner presented a petition, based on the allegation that "the said costs not yet having been taxed or agreed, your petitioner is the prospective creditor of the company in the taxed or agreed sum of its costs" estimated at £1,000. Further allegations were made to show insolvency and improper conduct of the company's affairs.

The company moved to restrain advertisement of the petition and the matter thus came before his Lordship.

Mr Libbert said that a "prospective debt" meant a certain liability at a future date, such as a bill of exchange due in three months, and that unless the amount could be specified there was no prospective debt.

Second, he said that in any event the petition was not presented for the purpose of obtaining a winding up, but to enable the petitioner to obtain the benefit of the company's lease of its Scottish premises.

Mr Littman said that there was no reason to limit prospective creditors to those claiming fixed amounts and that the petitioner certainly did want a winding-up order and had presented and prosecuted the petition as required by the rules and provided the security set by the registrar.

He suggested that the company was plainly insolvent, and that the evidence disclosed a case for investigation of its affairs.

He asserted that *Bryanston Finance Ltd v De Vries (No 2)* ([1976] Ch 63) showed that the court was not concerned with the reasons why the petitioner had presented his petition so long as he had sufficient grounds to found it. The company's action on the basis of false evidence disputing the original debt so blackened its hands that the court should refuse it equitable relief.

Neither side's arguments met the true point raised here. First, it was trite law that the Companies Court was not a debt-collecting court, the proper remedy being execution on a judgment, a distress or a garnishee order.

The true position was that a creditor petitioning the Companies Court, was invoking a class right, see *In re Crigglestone Coal Co Ltd* ([1906] 2Ch 327), and his position must be governed by whether he was truly invoking the right on behalf of himself and all other creditors of his class rateably, or whether he had some private purpose in view.

It had long been the law that a petition presented for the purpose of putting pressure on the company was not properly presented, see *In re a Company* ([1894] 2 Ch 349), and *In re Bellador Silk Ltd* ([1965]1 All ER 667).

The question therefore was whether the court was satisfied that the petitioner was seeking the winding up for the benefit of his class. The *Bryanston Finance* case merely showed in this field the common-law rule that neither malice not bad motive made that unlawful which was otherwise lawful: compare *Bradford v Pickles* ([1895]AC 587).

Here it was plain that no even-handedness existed. If the petition was properly presented then the petitioner stood to get a valuable asset and the rest of the class were likely to get nothing.

If the petition was not properly presented, so that in Scotland the company's lease remained un "irritated", and his Lordship had no certainty that would be the case, then the class of creditors including the petitioner might all have some hope of payment or would at least suffer rateably.

Furthermore, whether or not the petitioner was in truth a prospective creditor, it was not a proper use of the Companies Court to present a petition based on an unascertained debt, which had never been demanded, and which the company, or more properly if there was a suspicion of insolvency, a third party had had a chance to pay.

After referring to *In re Laceward Ltd* ([1980] 1 WLR 133), his Lordship concluded that the petition was an abuse of the process of the court and had to be dismissed with costs.

Leave was given to appeal.

Solicitors: Douglas-Jones & Mercer, Gorseinon; William F. Prior & Co, for Phillips & Buck, Cardiff.

Mine tackle no obstruction

Jennings v National Coal Board

Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Kerr and Lord Justice Slade

[Judgment delivered April 28]

Where a road in a mine was one in which vehicles or conveyors ran or which was used at the beginning or end of a shift by not fewer than 10 persons for walking to or from their working places in the mine, the duties of the manager of the mine under section 34(1)(b) of the Mines and Quarries Act 1954 extended to the whole of the road but part of the width would be taken up by the conveyor or rails and other tackle and material when the mine was being worked. Thus such tackle and material would not be an obstruction within the subsection.

The Court of Appeal, in a reserved judgment, dismissed an appeal by Mr Clive Jennings from an order of Judge Lauriston, QC (sitting as a High Court judge at Sheffield) of February 12, 1982, who dismissed Mr Jennings's claim against the National Coal Board for breach of duty under the 1954 Act and for negligence resulting in personal injuries to him on August 15, 1978, at Denby Grange Colliery.

Mr S. P. Grenfell for Mr Jennings; Mr P. J. M. Kennedy, QC and Mr D. R. Bentley for the coal board.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHENSON said that on August 15, 1978, at about 5.15 pm Mr Jennings, an experienced faceworker, had just finished his snap time 30 yards outbye the ripping lip in the main gate stable

He got up from the piece of wood or stone a few inches from the floor, on which he had been sitting to turn left and walk back to resume work when he broke his left ankle, apparently because his foot was trapped under an L-shaped angle iron nine feet long.

The main gate carried a tub track and a conveyor.

Looking inbye the right hand (rip) side of the gate consisted of solid coal, the left hand (pack) side of blasted stone. The floor was rough stone.

As the coal face advanced, the tub track and conveyor belt had to be extended and that required the materials needed for this extension to be moved up.

Mr Jennings complained that the angle iron was lying on its own, not neatly and properly stacked in a pile. And he alleged that those materials were scattered all over the gate, not confined to the sides, but leaving no clear walking way through the tackle.

The judge decided that at the time of the accident Mr Jennings was not in an area which was the recognized walkway at the time. He had chosen to go and take his snap at the side of this roadway in an area where it was right and proper that material should be stored.

Mr Jennings knew that the area to which he was going was the area where materials were stored.

It was not an obstruction if the material was in its proper place in the ordinary course of things; it was an obstruction if it was completely out of place, had no right or business to be where it was, ought not reasonably to be there, and served no useful purpose there: *Alexander v Tredegar Iron & Coal Co Ltd* ([1945] AC 286; *Cook v National Coal Board* ([1961] 1 WLR 1192); *McCann v National Coal Board* (unreported, March 5, 1975).

The same authorities indicated that in order to be an obstruction an object must be a source of risk to persons ordinarily using the floor, a danger in the accepted sense of a "reasonably foreseeable cause of injury to anybody acting in a way in which a human being might be reasonably expected to act in circumstances which may reasonably be expected to occur": *Close v Steel Co of Wales Ltd* ([1962] AC 367, 412).

The angle iron was in its proper place in the area regularly used for storing such necessary equipment although not stacked, and was not a reasonably foreseeable cause for injury to any person using that area.

Did the subsection require the whole width of the road to be kept free from obstructions or was the duty it imposed discharged by providing a passage of adequate width which was free from obstructions?

The subsection applied to every length of road in which vehicles or conveyors ran, or not fewer than 10 persons walked to and from their working places. If it was such a road it had to be unobstructed.

But as the machinery in a factory obstructed but was not the sort of obstruction to which section 28(1) of the Factories Act 1961 referred (see the judgment of Lord Justice Danckwerts at p1059 in *Pengelley v Bell Punch Co Ltd*) so a conveyor obstructed but was not the sort of obstruction to which section 34(1)(b) of the 1954 Act referred.

They did not have to comply with the safety requirements of the subsection.

Lord Justice Kerr and Lord Justice Slade agreed.

Solicitors: Brian Thompson & Partners, Manchester; Mr C. T. Peach, Doncaster.

Three chief justices in one court

The Chief Justice of India, Shri Y. V. Chandrachud, and Mr Chief Justice Pinyo Thiraniti, Chief Justice of the Criminal Court, Thailand, were present in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) presided over by Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, on May 10 hearing an appeal by Brian Charles Larner, aged 18, against conviction of murder. The appeal was dismissed.

Waiters were 'employees'

O'Kelly and Others v Trusthouse Forte PLC

Casual workers engaged by Trusthouse Forte in the banqueting department of the Grosvenor House Hotel were "employees" within the meaning of section 153(1) of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978. The Employment Appeal Tribunal held on May 11 that during each engagement they were working under separate contracts of employment.

MR JUSTICE BROWNE-WILKINSON, sitting with Mr J. D. Anderson and Mrs M. L. Boyle, allowed an appeal by three waiters from the decision of a London industrial tribunal that they were in business on their own account as independent contractors supplying services.

His Lordship said they were not deciding that all casual workers in the catering trade, or anywhere else, were employees. Each case had to be decided on its own facts.

هذا من الأصل

Investment and Finance

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THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 672.6 down 4.1
FT Gilts: 81.15 up 0.17
FT All Share: 419.34 down 1.66
Bargains: 20,768
Tring Hall USM Index: 157.9 up 23.59
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones, 8691.58 up 23.59
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index, 943.02 down 2.30
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average latest 1220.30 down 9.38

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling $1.5685 up 35pts
Index 83.9 down 0.1
DM 3.8275 unchanged
FrF 11.51 down 0.150
Yen 363 down 1.25
Dollar
Index 121.4 down 0.5
DM 2.4385 down 68pts
Gold
$443.75 up $0.25
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold $443.00
Sterling $1.5685

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10
3 month interbank $10\frac{1}{4}$-$10\frac{1}{8}$
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar $8\frac{9}{16}$-$8\frac{11}{16}$
3 month DM $5\frac{1}{16}$-$4\frac{15}{16}$
3 month $13\frac{3}{4}$-$13\frac{1}{2}$
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV *Average reference rate for* interest period April 6 to May 3, 1983 inclusive: 10.304 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Comb Tech $43\frac{1}{2}$p up $7\frac{1}{2}$p
Butt Harvey 19p up $1\frac{1}{2}$p
Int Thomson 590p up 37p
Northgate Ex 445p up 25p
Rustenberg 590p up 41p
Massey Ferg 415p up 30p
Britoil 178p down 6p
Exco Int 573p down 20p
Gen Accident 423p down 8p
Hawker Sidd 368p down 8p
Royal Ins 518p down 17p
Yarrow & Co 283p down 10p

TODAY

Interims: BOC Grp, Cambrian & General, Lloyds & Scottish, Warner Estates Hldgs.
Finals: Bank of Ireland, Hawtin, Holt Lloyd, Kuala Selangor Rubber, Seccombe Marshall & Campian.
Economic statistics: Provisional figures of vehicle production (April).

Record day for LIFFE

A record total of 7,672 contracts was traded on the London International Financial futures Exchange yesterday. Dealers said that sterling was very active, recording 2,401 contracts, as holders of the currency grew nervous about the election.

But Mr John Barkshire, chairman of LIFFE, said that the volume of business showed that the exchange was being used for its proper purpose of a hedge in times of uncertainty. He expected some of the extra business to be permanent.

● **BID EXTENSION:** Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries is extending its £26m takeover for Devenports Brewery (Holdings) for a further week. The Wolverhampton board took the decision after winning an encouraging 20 per cent level of acceptances from Davenports shareholders at the first closing date for its increased offer terms. This gives Wolverhampton effective control of 33 per cent of Davenports shares when the acceptances are added to shares previously purchased in the stockmarket.

PROFITS RISE: Matthew Hall, the plant and oil rig engineering group, managed to increase its profits last year despite the recession which has affected companies in the same sector so severely. On sales up from £329.25m to £413.15m, pretax profits rose 12.5 per cent to £11.64m.

● **EXPANSION:** Bunzl is paying £9.6m to buy seven separate US companies to expand its distribution division. The seven operate as a group and total profits last year were £3.8m on turnover of £50m. Further payments of up to £12.8m will be made by Bunzl over the next three years provided profits of at least £3.8m per year are achieved. Total net worth is £7.7m.

● **EARNINGS DOUBLE:** Kwik-Fit, the tyre and exhaust fitting company, more than doubled its profits from £1.3m to £2.9m last year and expects more improvement this year. It intends to open a further 11 "Stop 'n Steer" maintenance depots and another two transmission repair shops

WALL STREET

Stocks slip lower

New York (AP-Dow Jones) Stocks were slipping back yesterday after a short-lived rally.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down more than three points. It had pulled ahead to a gain of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ during the morning.

Trading was active. Oil stocks were strong, based on expectation of improved profitability.

Blue chip and glamour stocks led the market's rally over the last few weeks but analysts said individual investors were stepping up their participation in the market and focusing on some of the issues that have remained in the background.

Mr Ralph Block, vice-president for Investment Strategy at Moselely Hallgarten Estabrook & Weeden, said that *except for* the oils the market would be broadly lower.

American Telephone & Telegraph was $68\frac{1}{2}$, off $\frac{3}{8}$; **International Business Machines** 116, $\frac{3}{4}$ (unchanged); **General Motors** $68\frac{7}{8}$, off $\frac{5}{8}$; **Honeywell** 121, $\frac{1}{2}$ off 1; **Texaco** $36\frac{1}{8}$, up $\frac{3}{4}$; **Monsanto** $87\frac{1}{4}$, up $\frac{1}{4}$; **Disney** 75, off $\frac{3}{4}$ **Lockheed** $116\frac{5}{8}$, off $\frac{3}{8}$; and **Dow Chemical** 33, up $\frac{1}{4}$.

Ashland Oil was up $\frac{1}{4}$, at $35\frac{1}{8}$; **Exxon** up $\frac{1}{4}$ at $35\frac{1}{8}$; **K-Mart** off $\frac{1}{2}$, to $32\frac{1}{4}$; **CSK** up $\frac{3}{4}$, to $66\frac{3}{4}$; **Hewlett Packard**, unchanged at 82; **Homestake** up $\frac{3}{8}$, at $33\frac{7}{8}$; **Raytheon** up $\frac{3}{8}$, at $51\frac{3}{4}$; **Teledyne** off $\frac{1}{2}$, at $144\frac{1}{4}$; and **Data General** down $1\frac{1}{2}$, at $61\frac{1}{4}$.

MacGregor backs EEC protection

By Patricia Clough

Mr MacGregor, the chairman of the British Steel Corporation, said yesterday, that the best chances for British Steel lay in continued membership of the European Community.

There were no longer any opportunities for Britain to compete in the other main markets – North America, Japan and the Third World. "These markets no longer exist," he said.

Withdrawal from the Community would mean measures to protect British Steel from European competition and *corresponding measures against* Britain by remaining members. This would create a "knock on effect" which would damage the manufacturing industries and exports.

Mr MacGregor's remarks, made to the House of Lords select committee examining the impact of Community membership on British trade, came at the start of an election campaign in which the Labour Party will be urging withdrawal from the Community.

On balance, he said, membership of the Community has benefited British Steel. The Community had protected it from the worst of the growing competition by Third World countries who sell steel below cost to earn foreign currency.

The EEC steel regime's industrial intervention and support for its own industries has checked further deterioration *in the hard hit* British Steel industry. However, it has failed consistently to cope with the crisis in the industry.

Mr MacGregor warned, however, that both the British and the Continental steel industries would have to continue their process of shrinkage and rationalization to adapt to the smaller European markets.

● Luxemourg (Reuter)– The European Court of Justice has rejected appeals by Klöckner-Werke, the steel comany, against a fine imposed on it by the Eropean *Commission for* exceeding production quotas.

Officals said the court rejected every argument advanced by Klöckner against the fine of more than $2m (£1.26m). Klöckner lawyers said the quotas set the company were unfairly low.

McMahon speech may be reversal of policy

Bank of England chief defends big dividend rises paid by clearers

By Graham Searjeant

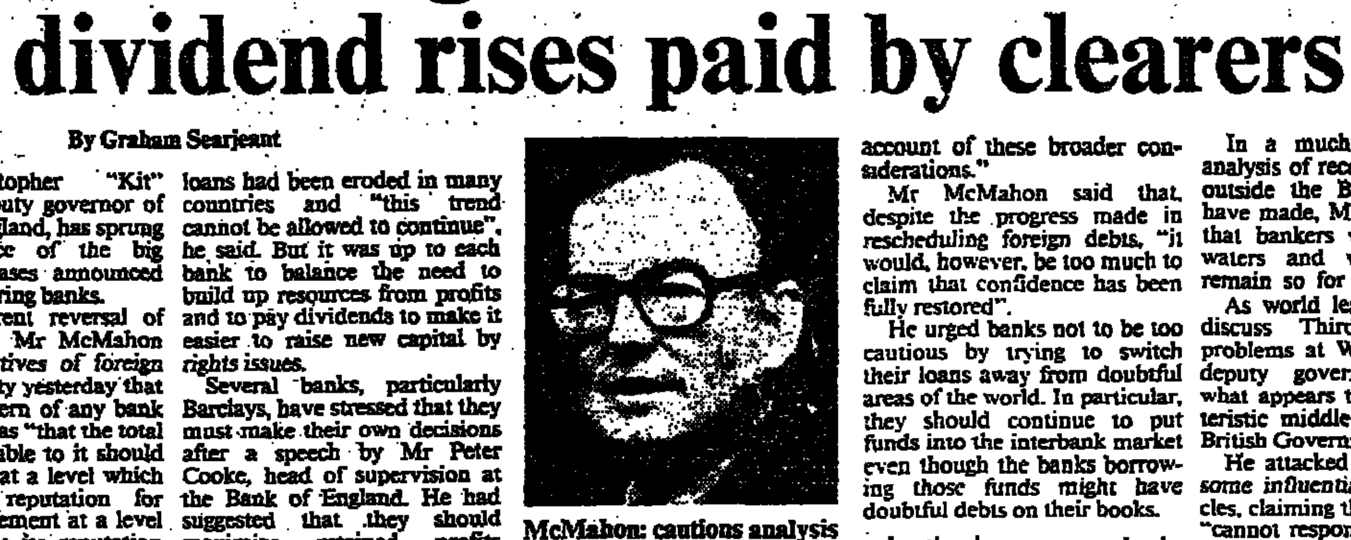
Mr Christopher "Kit" McMahon, deputy governor of the Bank of England, has sprung to the defence of the big dividend increases announced by London clearing banks.

In an apparent reversal of Bank thinking, Mr McMahon *told representatives of foreign* banks in the City yesterday that the prime concern of any bank or supervisor was "that the total resources available to it should be maintained at a level which preserves its reputation for prudent management at a level which preserves its reputation for prudent management. How a bank elects to meet this objective is a less important question."

The erosion of capital relative to the scale and quality of loans had been eroded in many countries and "this trend cannot be allowed to continue", he said. But it was up to each bank to balance the need to build up resources from profits and to pay dividends to make it easier to raise new capital by *rights issues*.

Several banks, particularly Barclays, have stressed that they must make their own decisions after a speech by Mr Peter Cooke, head of supervision at the Bank of England. He had suggested that they should maximize retained profits rather than pay out big dividends.

The House of Commons Treasury committee had quoted Mr Cooke's speech with approval. But Mr MacMahon said



McMahon: cautious analysis

yesterday that the remarks "were interpreted by some observers in much too narrow a way. The actions of the major British banks have, in our view, been reasonable in taking account of these broader considerations."

Mr McMahon said that, despite the progress made in rescheduling foreign debts, "it would, however, be too much to claim that confidence has been fully restored".

He urged banks not to be too cautious by trying to switch their loans away from doubtful areas of the world. In particular, they should continue to put funds into the interbank market even though the banks borrowing *those funds might have* doubtful debts on their books.

In the longer term, banks should become less dependent on short-term money from the wholesale markets. But, at the moment, maintenance of interbank lines "is a crucial part of the burden-sharing"

In a much more cautious analysis of recovery than many outside the Bank of England have made, Mr McMahon said that bankers were in difficult waters and were bound to remain so for some time.

As world leaders prepare to discuss Third World debt problems at Williamsburg, the deputy governor expounded what appears to be the characteristic middle position of the British Government.

He attacked the attitudes in *some influential American circles*, claiming that central banks "cannot responsibly expose the international financial system to the kinds of risk that might be involved in a gerneralised hands-off policy". The balance of lending should switch from private banks to international institutions such as the IMF.

TRAFALGAR HOUSE SHARE PRICE

DATASTREAM

180
170
160
150
140
130
120

RELATIVE TO FT/A ALL SHARE INDEX

MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR

Trafalgar buys two liners for £46m

By Jeremy Warner

Trafalgar House, the property *construction* and Cunard shipping group, is to buy two luxury cruise liners from a Norwegian group for $73m (£46.5m).

The purchase is in line with the group's declared policy of reducing its dependence on property and concentrating on shipping and construction.

Trafalgar House, which yesterday announced an increase in pretax profits for the *half-year* to the end of March from £27.7m to £33.56m is acquiring the two liners, the Vistafjord and the Sagafjord, from Norwegian American Cruises next October.

The group said that its existing passenger fleet, which includes the QE2, is already expected to produce record results this year and that the acquisition of the two ships would assist Cunard in maintaining this progress without incurring the high cost of new construction or adding to world tonnage.

Trafalgar's half-year profits included a £1,5m increase in the contribution from shipping, aviation and hotel interests to £5.4m.

Trafalgar House
Half-year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £33.56m (£27.72m)
Stated earnings 10.6p (7.2p)
Net interim dividend 4p (3.5p)
Share price 183p, up 2p. Yield 6.4

The housing side of the business is doing exceptionally well with the number of sales expected to rise by a third, for the year ending in September, to 2,000, boosting the housing *content of construction profits* to around 20 per cent.

The order book on the construction side as a whole has risen from £800m at the end of lst year to over £1bn now.

● Ellerman Lines, the large privately owned shipping and brewing group which is now up for sale, yesterday announced a *pre-tax loss* for 1982 of £9.3m, but it expects to make an profit this year.

Linfood bid for Key Markets

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Linfood Holdings has topped by £3m the £34.8m deal in which Fitch Lovell would sell Key Markets to Safeway.

The announcement came last night on the eve of the expected publication of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on Linfood's takeover bid for all of Fitch Lovell.

Linfood said that if the Safeway deal was approved by Fitch shareholders at the extraordinary meeting to be held on May 20, and became otherwise unconditional, Linfood would not renew its offer for *all of Fitch Lovell*. This would apply even if the Monopolies Commission gives the green light to the Linfood bid.

Linfood's increase in its cash bid is for the share capital and reserves of Key Markets. The offer is disclosed in a circular to Fitch shareholders which urges that the Safeway deal be turned down.

When Mr Alec Monk, Linfood's chairman, launched his £87m takeover bid for Fitch last September, a key element was the proposed merger of the Key Markets supermarkets chain with Linfood's Gateway chain. The two together would account for around 4 per cent of the grocery market.

Linfood's pretax profits for the year ended in April are estimated to be up nearly 40 per cent at not less than £16.5m, Mr Monk has told his own shareholders. It is proposed to recommend a final dividend of 10p a share, making 16p net for the year, an increase of 33 per cent.

Central borrowing fears confirmed

By Our Financial Staff

Central government borrowing requirement totalled £1.19bn in April, according to figures released by the Treasury yesterday.

A surprising reduction in tax receipts and the apparently buoyant level of central govern*ment spending* contributed to the relatively high figures.

However, the markets had already been led to expect a fairly large figure. The April outturn compares with a revised £2.73bn in March, which was much higher than expected because of a bunching of spending at the end of the last financial year. The CGBR in April 1982 was £827m.

The April figure appears to have confirmed the fears of those in the City who believe that government spending and borrowing is running ahead of target and some analysts were suggesting yesterday that the level of government borrowing could presage another set of poor money supply figures in the May banking month.

There are a number of factors which appear to have pushed up the April total. Borrowing from the National Loans Fund by local authorities was well up on the same month a year ago at £400m and it was stressed by officials that this would not necessarily feed through into the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement.

Departmental balances also rose sharply by £568m and it was suggested that departments were drawing money from the Consolidated Fund before they needed to spend it and this could have contributed to the increase in spending.

Consolidated Fund expenditure in April was £7.58bn compared with £6.93bn in April 1982 and supply issues within this rose by 9 per cent to £7.26bn – more than the Budget forecast of 5 per cent.

Hanson opposes shop sale

By Jonathan Clare

Hanson Trust, which now controls 79 per cent of the shares in UDS, said yesterday that it intends to vote against the long standing proposal to sell off the troubled retailers Richard Shops and John Collier chains to the Burton Group.

Last nigh, Mr Michael Wood, Burton's finance director, said Hanson's statement was "a mere formality" and that his *company was still negotiating to* buy the two chains. The plan to sell them to Burton was first drawn up against the original bid for UDS from Bassishaw.

Mr Wood said the *substance* of any new deal with Hanson Trust would be the same as the one on the table. Burton was to have paid for the shops with shares but may now be reluctant to see Hanson as one of its prominent shareholders.

Bassishaw is believed to have expressed an interest in the shops, but yesterday, Mr Martin Taylor, Hanson's finance director, was reluctant to say that any negotiations were under way with either company.

Market unimpressed as Royal returns to profit

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Royal Insurance, the second of the composites to report first-quarter figures, showed an turn round from losses to profit thanks to much lower claims from bad weather. However, the stock market was still disappointed and the shares fell 17p to 518p.

Compared with a loss of £3.5m in the first *quarter* of 1982, Royal reported a £9.2m pretax profit. Weather claims, largely in the United Kingdom, were well down from the exceptional £38m cost in the comparable period but at £15.5m were still higher than normal.

However, allowing for this and for a £7.9m boost to the underwriting loss from currency changes, the underlying picture on the underwriting side remains gloomy.

The first quarter underwriting loss was virtually unchanged at £64.2m. *In the United States*, the underwriting loss, boosted by sterling's drop, rose from £28.7m to £43.5m and the operating ratio rose from 115.2 per cent to 117.9 per cent.

The deterioration was across the board with the exception of homeowners and commercial automobile lines and Royal is taking action to push up rates at the expense of some loss of market share.

Royal expects the US to show improvement later in the year and there are also signs of competition easing in the United Kingdom, although underwriting losses excluding weather claims showed a marked deterioration in the first quarter.

Mr John Howard, chief general manager, described the results as disappointing despite the turn round.

He said there was no reason why the next three quarters of the year should be any worse than in 1982 which suggests *Royal should* make about £109m this year compared with 1982's pretax profit of £96.5m.

Call for assault on trade barriers

Ministers urge economic pact

From Frances Williams, Paris

Strong support for closer ties between the key international economic organizations to further the preservation and expansion of the open trading system, emerged from finance and trade ministers meeting yesterday. They had gathered *informally* at the invitation of Mr Donald Regan, the United States Treasury Secretary.

Ministers and officials of the eight countries present – including the seven summit nations except France, plus the Netherlands and Switzerland – are understood to have concluded their discussions of the linkages between world and financial problems by urging closer cooperation between the International Monetary Fund, the General Agreement on tariffs and Trade (Gatt) and the organization for Economic Cooperation and development.

A similar call was made by the development committee of the World Bank meeting in Washington two weeks ago.



Mr Regan

It is seen as a way of ensuring, for example, that stress on trade liberal liberalization becomes an integral component of IMF adjustment programmes for debtor countries and its annual surveillance procedures for the industrial nations.

Sources said yesterday that although countries recognised the political difficulties of dismantling trade barriers in conditions of recession, high unemployment and overhanging debts, in the medium term they believed this offered the best hope for sustained world recovery and the more rapid growth of the developing nations.

The meeting of trade and finance ministers, the first of its kind ever held, is likely to be repeated later in the year, though no definite plans have yet been made.

American and British spokesmen said yesterday that the meeting had been useful

Fears that the United States would use the occasion to press for greater restraint on East West trade proved ill-founded.

Instead it was the Americans who came in for criticism, especially from the Japanese, over the strength of the dollar and its adverse impact on world *growth, debt* and trade.

City Comment

ITT's $1m circus by satellite

ITT claims that yesterday's annual meeting in London was the first time a major American company has assembled its shareholders *outside the United States*. It must be true. If all American company meetings were like this they could hardly have passed unnoticed.

It was the full circus of American corporate democracy. A film extolling the virtues of ITT European subsidaries and products, lines of board members filing on to the stage to the accompaniement of soft music, ladies sporting diamonds as big as the Ritz (they stay in Sheratons, however), gentlemen in sports jackets bright enough to stop the traffic – and a corps of professional activists.

The latter are, presumably, invited to enliven the otherwise soporific proceedings. One such, a Miss Evelyn Davis, who modestly introduced herself to a long-suffering audience as America's best known minority rights activist, sensibly suggested that ITT would benefit from better connexions with royalty. To this end she proposed that the meeting elect as a director Miss Kathleen "Koo" Stark.

The board in general and Mr Rand Araskog – who as president, chairman and chief executive of ITT does not seem to leave much room for anyone else – bore much of it with patience.

But in a sense the company understood the purpose of the meeting better than some of the more vociferous shareholders.

Multinational corporations have international *shareholders* as well as international profits. Some 40 per cent of ITT's sales and 30 per cent of its shareholders are in Europe.

It is therefore logical and fair that meetings should be held outside the United States. The extra $1m cost, about half of which was for a live satellite link to Chicago, is insignificant. The pity is that shareholders did not make better use of their money to ask constructive questions.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Lee Cooper
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £10m (9.1m)
Stated earnings 25.68p (27.73p)
Turnover £86.5m (£77m)
Net final dividend 2.10p, mkg 3.32p (3.01p) Dividend payable July 4

G R Holdings
Half-year to 31.2.82.
Pretax profit £853,030 (£1.1m)
Stated earnings 10.8p (14.9p restated)
Turnover £10.5m (£11.2)
Net interim dividend 1.6p (1.6p)

Argus Press Holdings
Year 1982.
Pretax profit, £3.3m(£2.3m).
Stated earnings, 22.74p(28.93p).
Turnover, £65m (£52.5m).
Net dividend final, 2.65p mkg 4.9p (9.3p).

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Sandy McLachlan

Why time may be on Tilling's side

Predictably, the BTR sighting shot of £600m for Thomas Tilling has received acceptances of only 4.2 per cent, but BTR's adviser, Morgan Grenfell, has settled at this stage simply for extension rather than anything more positive.

Obviously there is a long way to go yet, unless BTR allows its bid to lapse – which is fairly inconceivable at the moment. Hence Tilling's share price at 205p is still comfortably above the BTR cash offer of 189.4p.

The main plank in the Tilling defence, so far anyway, has been the assertion that the sum of the parts is more than equal to the whole which, if anything, backs up BTR. Also, asset values are of use only in a break-up situation which, again so far, the Tilling management has said is not the case: indeed, it is BTR which is being damned as an opportunistic asset stripper.

The real defence, however, is likely to be that Tilling is prepared to do some form of asset-stripping itself. It has already argued that Tilling shareholders and not BTR's should benefit from any form of "deconglomeration".

If BTR does decide to come back with a realistic bid of 220p or more, Tilling, backed by its advisers S. G. Warburg, is willing, it appears, to prove its point by reversing at least some of more than a generation's work that has gone into making the group the widely-based industrial conglomerate that it is today.

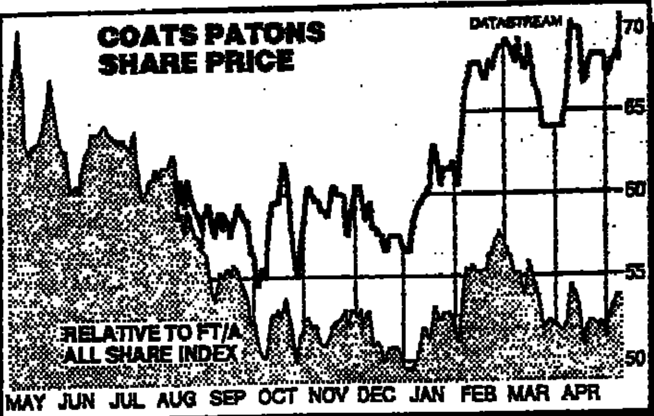
Quite what form that would take, both Tilling and Warburg are keeping firmly up their sleeves.

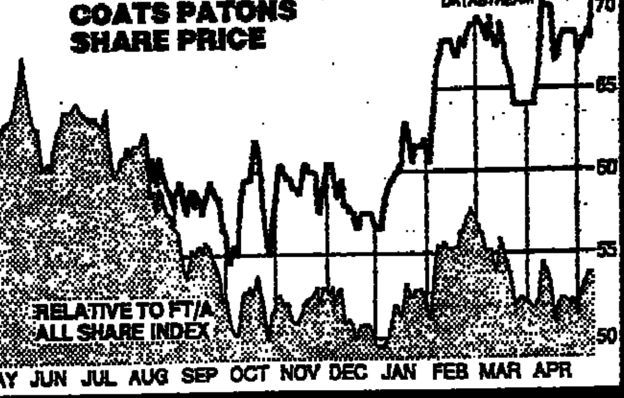
The more time BTR gives the opposition to make its plans, the more convincing these plans are likely to sound.

Certainly Tilling shareholders could be quite easily confused by the prospect of holding shares directly in some of the big subsidiaries as an alternative to the BTR offer.

Obviously the message at the moment is to hold on, and await developments.

Coats Patons





The good news at Coats Patons, the Jaeger clothing and knitwear group, is that trading profits last year were not much different to 1981 despite problems in most of its markets. The bad news is that more than one-third of profits came from South America and first quarter sales and profits everywhere are "unexciting".

South America contributed £35.6m against £34.1m yet accounts for only 15 per cent – less than £75m – of assets employed. Much of the profitability, at a time when Coats is retrenching staff in the United Kingdom and Europe, stems from the dollar/sterling exchange rate which was struck at

Coats Patons
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £76.9m (£74.8m)
Stated earnings 14.6p (14.7p)
Turnover £856.2m (£800.4m)
Net total dividend 4.2p (4.0p)
Share price 71p, up 3p Yield 8.5%
Dividend payable 1.7.83

$1.62 last year against $1.91 the year before, but was partly offset by the devaluation of the Brazilian cruzeiro.

This year Coats sees only more turmoil, both political and economic, in South America but little opportunity of decreasing its reliance on those markets.

Worldwide, the weaker pound contributed £7.9m to profits. The interest charge also fell from £19.5m to £18.3m wich reflects lower interest rates and includes a currency benefit of about £3m.

Results in 1982 against 1981 show few changes in the South American, North American, European, African and British markets. But Asia and Australia showed a heartening upturn.

The 40 per cent owned Indian associate company turned in £5m against £2.5m. Coats would like to invest more in that country but cannot increase is stake in the existing associate and must raise local loans to invest in another, a move it will not contemplate at the moment.

Restructuring in Europe and Britain cost £9.5m below the line and £7.7m above. The United Kingdom workforce shrunk by 1,200 last year to 16,500. More redundancies, already provided for, will come with the impending closure of a mill in Paisley, Lanarkshire.

The European workforce has been cut by a third over two years and the production of industrial threads reorganised.

The attempts at diversification over the last seven years have not been entirely successful and the rather esoteric eel fish farming exercise in Scotland, which has lost £1m over four or five years, will be sold or closed. But Coats is looking for acquisitions with a top price of around £20m.

The first increase in the dividend for three years will be of some comfort to shareholders who otherwise have little to smile about. The City looks on Coats as an operator in the commodity textile sector and worries a great deal about South America.

Ultramar

Ultramar
First quarter to 31/3/83
Pretax profit £47.9m (£43.7m)
Stated earnings 20.9p (17.8p)
Turnover £423m (£349m)
Share price 537p

With its heavy Indonesian involvement, Ultramar is hardly representative of the oil industry. But its first-quarter figures, with pretax profits up by a quarter and the benefit of £105m rights issue in February still to show through, have as the chairman says, held up well in the face of a generally depressed oil price structure.

Indonesia is not going to do as well in the second quarter, but the group expects a gradual improvement in its downstream activities, while the third quarter will start to see benefits of the recent capital investment programme.

Oil shares have had a good run since January when the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries seemed to be falling apart and oil prices hovered on the brink of collapse. Before this week's election jitters, the sector has outperformed the rest of the market by about 12 per cent, with the gains spread across the spectrum of companies.

Most of the signals in the last two months have been positive. Opec's agreement is holding better than most people (Opec ministers included) dared hope, the long overdue Budget tax changes have breathed new life into the exploration companies, and the European marketing and refining business – the industry's black hole for two years – has improved significantly.

The fundamentals of the downstream business are still fairly shaky, and weak demand is constantly nibbling away at product prices, but the noises from BP, Shell and the other leaders are that they are once again trading at a profit, albeit one that is miniscule and inadequate in terms of the rate of return. With the economic recovery to look forward to, the outlook is outwardly more promising than for some time.

It would be wrong for investors to get too excited. Opec's agreement is still fragile, and the critical summer months, when demand is at its weakest on seasonal grounds, have still to come. Reminders from the International Energy Agency that there is still some 8 million barrels a day of spare Opec capacity bottled in the system are timely.

Even if demand for Opec oil rises above the current self-imposed ceiling of 17.5 million barrels a day, the competition for market share will still be intense, raising the spectre of price discounting and quota-busting again later in the year.

However, as Ultramar indicates, the downstream does hold out some more positive signs, and it is here that the best investment opportunity lies. BP and Shell will suffer heavy stock losses in the first quarter, but they look a safer bet than the exploration-based companies such as Tricentrol, Lasmo and Britoil. If the market is entering a period of general weakness and election uncertainty, as many feel, oil stocks have good defensive qualities. The average yield is a good two points better than that offered by the market as a whole, and the integrated companies are probably fairly immune to the overall trend in equities.

Within the sector Ultramar looks relatively attractive.

Spear and Jackson

Spear & Jackson International
Year to 1.1.83
Pretax loss £1.8m (profit £384,000)
Stated loss 30.8p (earnings 1.1p)
Turnover £28.9m (£30.6m)
Net total dividend (final passed) 1p (6.575p)
Share price 73p, no change.

The 1982 results from Spear & Jackson International, the tool makers, were pretty appalling, whichever way you look at them. It plunged into the red halfway, and only the last quarter showed any sign of improvement.

But a doubling in the number of projected United States housing starts this year has suddenly made the picture look rosier, with a good chance that the company could break even in the first half of this year.

The slump in United States housing cut demand for timber from both Canada and the United States. This hit the Spear saw factories in North America and in Sheffield where the plate and steel for export is made. The cuts in North America were so great that Spear was unable to cover its British overheads.

The garden and hand tools business was profitable, although well down.

Spear always has sound explanations for its problems but it does little to dissuade anyone from the notion that its spades are a better long-term investment than the shares.

Trafalgar Houses's *announcement that it is to purchase two luxury cruise liners next October for $73m (£46.5m) underlines the group's declared policy of reducing its reliance on property profits. These fell by nearly £5m in the half-year to last March but thriving passenger shipping, construction and housing activities pushed group pretax profits £5.84m higher at £33.56m. The increase in the half-year dividend will leave the shares on an undemanding yield of 6.4 per cent.*

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Professor Maurice Peston on Wynne Godley and Francis Cripps's attempt to 'rebuild macroeconomics'

A failed attempt to reconstruct Keynes

I must start in a rather unconventional way by pointing out what this book is not. *Macroeconomics* is not a survey of macroeconomics, either of theory or of recent controversy about the applicability of theory to the real world.

It is not even an account of Keynesian macroeconomics, at least insofar as that subject is studied and taught in the main academic centres of the US and Britain.

Indeed, one of its more remarkable characteristics is its lack of reference to the publications of virtually all major contemporary contributors to the subject. There is a kind of nursery school democracy about it – if one economist is not to be quoted then none shall have that honour. Whatever else one makes of it, therefore, for the publishers to call it a masterguide is simply preposterous.

Of course, the authors themselves make no attempt to mislead. To quote them, "What we are hoping to do is establish a logical framework for the analysis of macroeconomic phenomena which is coherent and simple enough to rinse away some of the sheer confusion which surrounds the subject at present, thereby facilitating orderly and creative work on the problems of stagnation, unemployment and inflation . . .".

The model

In other words, they are trying to rebuild macroeconomics rather than explain it. I am tempted to go further and say their book reads as if they believe that macroeconomics did not exist before they invented it in their part of Cambridge University.

The theory we are offered in the first instance is in three parts. There is a simple model of an economy in which the variables are expressed in ordinary monetary units. Secondly, there is an account of price inflation. Thirdly, an attempt is made to go from the first two to an analysis of the economy in real terms.

The simple model has several characteristics which are worth noting. It lumps together all private expenditure except inventory accumulation. Thus, it ignores the distinction between consumption and investment which Keynes thought so important. It postulates a fixed normal relationship between assets and incomes, and for the most part between the money stock and income which is a central postulate of primitive monetarism.

Essentially, private expenditure is determined by the desired rate at which the actual money stock is brought to equal the desired one. Inventory accumulation is fixed independently and this is financed by bank loans in the form of money. That is very much part of the approach favoured by Sir Dennis Robertson (again not mentioned by name), who was both Keynes's colleague and intellectual opponent.

Variables

Government expenditure is on goods and services, transfer payments being included in the postulated fixed tax rate (i.e. it is a rate net of transfers). Stock equilibrium in the model requires a balanced budget. This means that income and output are determined by the two fiscal variables.

Monetary policy has only *transitory* effects on real output (as the monetarists themselves state) unless it affects government expenditure or the average tax rate. (Although not a point the authors stress, it may well do both).

Also, in full static equilibrium, there can be no asset accumulation, and, therefore, private income must equal private expenditure.

The inflation model is of the strict cost push kind. It claims to be compatible with other theories, but will, presumably, only be so if they are equivalent to price being a simple mark-up on given unit cost. Underlying their approach to the general price level is the view that inflation is the way the system accommodates itself to conflicts about shares of total income, but this is not elaborated.

It is also interesting to see that they accept the distinction between the nominal rate of interest and the real rate.

They do not however, emphasize the expected inflation rate as the link; nor do they postulate money demand as a function of the normal rate. Thus, they do not reach Friedman's conclusion that the demand for real balances falls as the inflation rate rises even with the real rate of interest constant.

They have some useful things to say about inflation accounting. This, they claim, *provides the essential link* which enables them to go from the nominal economy to the real one. In doing so they appear to be arguing that their original model, and its analysis, is compatible with any inflation rate. However, it is not, and it is easy to see why. (I say "appear" because their exposition in this part of the book is most opaque, and I am not sure I follow it.)

Equilibrium

If real income and the real stock of money are fixed in equilibrium, and there is inflation, income and money in ordinary units will be growing. It follows that to provide the extra money, the budget must be unbalanced in *full* equilibrium (and not balanced as their initial exposition states).

Moreover, it is then the case that, given real government expenditure and the tax rate, the faster is inflation, the lower will be equilibrium real output. It will also be true that the budget deficit will be larger.

Now, it remains true that, in this kind of model, expansionary fiscal policy does raise effective demand and real output to the extent that there are no supply constraints. But this goes hand in hand with monetary expansion, illustrating the standard point that monetary policy and fiscal policy can be regarded as two sides of the same coin.

Their view of the supply side is worth mentioning. They argue that in a closed economy there cannot be a supply constraint in the sense that it will be unprofitable for companies to meet an increase in aggregate demand. What they mean by that, however, is merely that, given the level of money wages (or its rate of change), there will be a price level which companies can set which will make it profitable to supply the output.

That is, however, compatible with an extremely steep aggregate supply curve which causes most of an increase in demand to be dissipated in price rises rather than output expansion. Moreover, as they recognize by implication, in an open economy international competition may inhibit price rises and will certainly imply that some increase in demand will go to overseas suppliers because domestic companies find it unprofitable to meet it.

Puzzle

In addition, if the price response of companies conflicts with workers' real wage demands, it will again be *unprofitable for the output* demanded to be supplied. In my view, these last two considerations (coupled with a greater emphasis on expectations, rational or otherwise, that the authors give) are vital to an understanding of the economic history of the past decade.

At the risk of returning to the confusions of the 1930s, there is one puzzle to which I must refer. They say that money stocks and flows must satisfy accounting identities in individual budgets, and regard this as quite fundamental.

Now, I thought it had long since been recognised that there is nothing fundamental about an identity, which is this context is simply a way of organizing data. A budget constraint is another matter and is at the core of all economics since without it there would be no scarcity and no costs.

But a constraint is not an identity. In several places in the book Godley and Cripps appear to misunderstand the distinction between an equation and an identity. As an example, they go from an identity concerning price, costs, and a mark-up factor to a causal interpretation reminiscent of the quantity theory of money in its most misleading form.

All I can add is that this is very much in the tradition of Keynes who was equally confused on the nature of identities and equilibrium conditions.

I have been critical of this book in terms of style, method, and content. The authors claim to have re-established "the quintessentially Keynesian principle of effective demand as the determinant of real output and employment". In fact, they tell us nothing about employment, and their treatment of demand and policy is *simplistic*.

Macroeconomics by Wynne Godley and Francis Cripps. Fontana £3.95.

Graham Searjeant looks at the short-term share trends

Election excitement but only briefly

The June election has provided a welcome comic interlude for stock market analysts. They have spent the past few weeks agonizing over whether the long upward trend in share prices has come to an end or simply paused to rise again as world recovery really starts to materialize. Suddenly the time horizon has shortened to a month.

The stock markets predict rather than genuinely react to events over the months, however much market dealers may like to rationalize daily movements by linking them to strikes, CBI forecasts or the Test match score. So, by the time Mrs Thatcher winged her way to the Palace, stock prices had already assumed her party would win the forthcoming general election, whenever it might be.

But markets day by day express movements in sentiment, so the only way in the short-term was down. The slightest uncertainty over the result was bound to depress share prices. As so often, recently the impetus came from currency markets as foreigners decided to hedge their bets. Add the natural caution of stockjobbers, keeping their options open and their books closed, and share prices fell 2 per cent in a day. But at least that means short-term prices can move either way as the campaign unfolds.

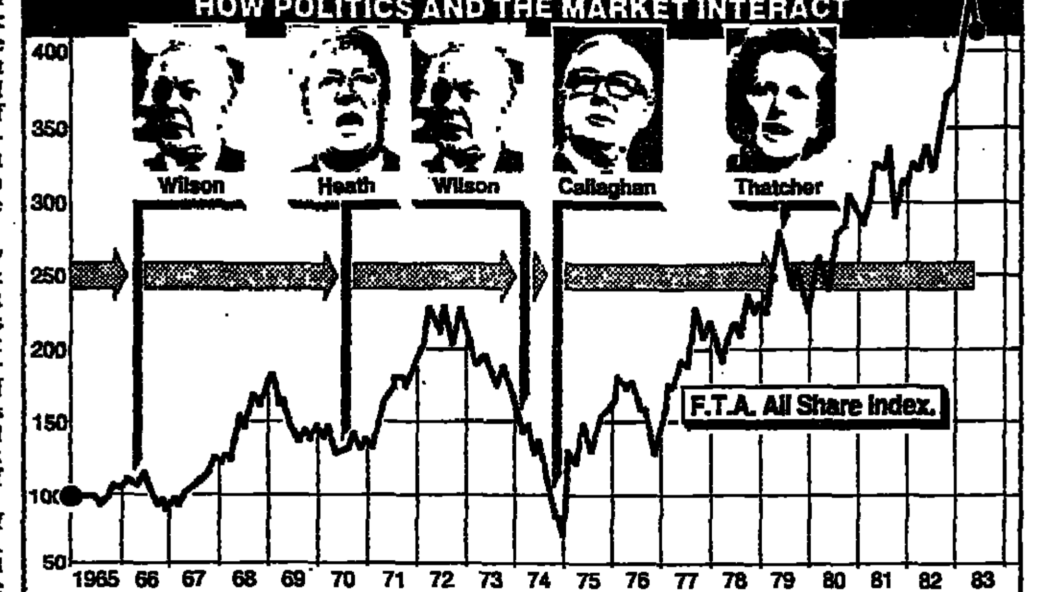
Already Panmure Gordon, the stockbroker, has bravely mapped out how the campaign diary might affect bonds and therefore shares. After the initial markdown, the best news should come with a remarkable price index for April due on May 20. Unemployment figures due on June 3 will be sharply down, but for purely statistical reasons, which could work either way. Later, there could be a cut in US interest rates but any pre-poll cut here would look embarrassingly political. If Mrs Thatcher looks like winning, stocks will rise in the last few days. But remember that in 1979, the markets peaked the day after polling.

Anything but a Tory victory would surely knock both stock and bond prices. This does not strictly reflect a sober analysis of the effects of a different government: possible higher profits balanced against fears of inflation, devaluation, or less likely, higher interest rates. Still less does it bear on the complex short and long-term effects of foreign exchange controls.

It is basically a matter of confidence at home and abroad. Likewise, good timing should yield short-term profits in the euphoria of a Thatcher win. Then it would be quickly back to more mundane analyses. Some canny observers, such as Mr Stephen Lewis of Phillips and Drew, already see a returned Tory administration tightening up on the money supply to stifle any resurgence of inflation and inspire employers to stick out for a modest wage round this year. Others, it should be said, see a further cut in base rates as soon as confidence returns.

There are always two sides to the market argument. Old hands taking the seaweed approach see signs of terminal decay in a bull market that took the *FT*-A all-share index up by two-thirds between September 1981 and its peak in mid-April.

There has been a spate of share-for-share takeover bids to capitalize on successful companies' buoyant currency.



Companies are being launched at fancy prices both on the main stock market and its unlisted securities offshoot.

Many of the newest entrants, embarrassed to ask what they think they can get, have auctioned themselves by tender offers for sale. And smart financiers are launching themselves with abandon into companies with fashionable, usually new technology, tags. Could we be back to 1972, when share prices boiled over just as industry was really beginning to enjoy the economic upswing?

The analogy is far from perfect. By that time interest rates were already rising to counter higher profits, the other blade of the stock market scissors. Today, interest rates are still expected to fall, albeit hopes have been severely modified – to 1 per cent – in the past few months.

Meanwhile, leading stockbrokers are looking for a surge in company profits: 15-20 per cent this year and next from Phillips & Drew; 24 per cent followed by 30 per cent according to James Capel, who excludes the North Sea sector. That would make industrial shares, currently selling at an average $13\frac{1}{2}$ times net profits, look a lot cheaper. But it might only raise 1984 dividend yields to around $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, which is not going to thrill big City institutions unless long-term interest rates really start to fall again.

In any case, history rarely repeats exactly. To start with, the upsurge in prices has been going on, with interruptions, since at least the end of 1979. The market's hopes of cheap money and industrial recovery have been as often delayed and prolonged as everyone else's.

In that time the foreign exchange markets have assumed a much greater importance in determining the direction of stock market prices, forming the third leg of a triangle with profits and interest rates. Amreican buyers, spilling over from frothy Wall Street, pay more attention to the prospects of sterling than of GKN.

The pound will react strongly on shares as prospects of Tory victory or defeat next month fluctuate.. But adding an exchange rate factor complicates stock market economics in a topsy turvy world where high US budget deficits produce a high dollar and threaten British stock values.

Foreigners also complicate the next likely upset for share prices: fear that the anticipated growth in world trade on which British profit hopes rest will fade away in the second half of 1984. In Britain, such heresy is associated with would-be reflators. But on the other side of the Atlantic, it is the sound of money men who doubt that America's all-important recovery con survive the perils of budget deficits and dodgy money supply figures.

Even here, City analysts are becoming more sceptical than they would like to be of prolonged recovery and find themselves predicting the health of British markets on apparently obscure factors like the reappointment of Mr Paul Volcker, the pragmatic US Federal Reserve's chief.

Such doubts are likely to cause a setback to British shares in the summer or autumn regardless of the eventual outcome. It may well be temporary. But at this stage of what is called a "mature bull market". It would be silly to look for the average of shares rising much more than 10-15 per cent in the next year or more.

Such a rise may be too tempting for the big investors to miss. They have to put their money somewhere. With the British Telecom flotation delayed and barring dramatic upsurge in government borrowing, that money will not pour into the sand. But such prospects are not so exciting for the private investor with heavy investment costs. He will be keener to make a few swift shillings on the election market.

MARKET REPORT ● by Andrew Cornelius

New issues undeterred

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, May 9. Dealings end, May 20. Contango Day, May 23. Settlement Day, May 31.

Announcements of new issues on the USM are unabated by the current uncertainties in the pre-election market. Yesterday **Charterhouse Japhet** was busy explaining the virtues of **Castle (GB)**, the fitted kitchen and bathroom company, while broker **Simon & Coates** was explaining the merits of a planned offer for sale of 20 per cent of the shares in the **Adam Leisure Group**, which sells electronic games.

Castle comes to the market via a placing of 3.600.000 shares at 80p each arranged by Charterhouse Japhet. Trading begins on the USM on Tuesday. Last year the group made pretax profits of £902.000 on a turnover of £10.1m and is forecasting pretax profits in the year to July this year of not less than £1.1m. This puts the group, which is run by former Golden Wonder crisps salesman, and fitted kitchen expert, Mr Bruce Troughton, on a prospective earnings ratio of 16.43.

Adam Leisure, which looks a riskier bet, is offering for sale 5 million shares at 80p on May 23 and hopes to begin trading on May 26.

The group is forecasting of pretax profits of £3m for the year ending August 31 1983 against £1.2m for the previous year, on sales of £21m. At a minimum tender price of 80p the shares will yield 3.57 per cent and offer a p/e ratio of 13.88.

Watch the share price of J. E. England & Sons (Wellington), the potato merchants and frozen food distribution company. With Britain's potato crop threatened by wet weather, prices are expected to treble, which is good news for traders, if not for housewives. The share price was up 2p to 20p yesterday.

Elswhere the stockmarket was much steadier after yesterday's sharp setback, although an initial rally on the back of an opion poll favouring the Government's election chances failed to make much headway. The *FT* Index finished the day down 4.1 points at 672.6. However, further consideration of the money supply figures together with lower interest rate hopes helped gilts add ¼ to ⅜.

Dealers dreported that trading was thin across most of the leading shares although *Glaxo* **Holdings** fell by 20p to 865p, making a two-day fall of 35p, while **Hawker Siddeley** was down by 8p at 368p, **Beecham** down 3p at 373p and *GEC* down 4p at 216p

However, **United Biscuits** was up by 4p to 146p on the day after a bullish statement from Sir Hector Laing, chairmam, at the company's annual meeting. He said that trading in the first quarter was substantially higher than last time and the indications were that the results for the first half of the year would be very good indeed.

Bellair Cosmetics was up by 70p to 228p on the day after continuing speculation about the ambitions of a groups of Turkish shareholders. **Belgrave (Blackheath)**, the forging company, came back from 105p to 94p after yesterday's sharp rise on news that **Gomba UK** had taken a 28 per cent holding.

The broking firm De Zoete and Bevan is recommending shares of Foseco Minsep, the metallurgical and specialist chemicals group, where pretax profits slumped from £23.4m to £14.8m last year. At yesterday's closing price of 142p, the shares are a good way of participating in the US cyclical recovery, says De Zoete.

Shares of **Thomas Tilling** were down 3p at 205p on news that the BTR bid had been extended though some dealers expected *BTR* to increase its £600m bid terms.

Insurances held firm despite poor first-quarter figures from **Royal Insurance** whose shares dived 17p to 518p. **Commercial Union** was up 4p to 164p, with the market still pleased with its first-quarter figures published earlier this week, and **Guardian Royal Exchange** increased by 2p to 443p.

Life insurance companies have also been a strong market with dealers encouraged by industry figures showing the new business generated by homebuyers switching from repayment to endowment mortgages. **Sun Life Assurance** was up by 5p at 468p, and **Pearl Assurance** up by 2p at 610p.

Among the brewery shares **Davenports** increased by 5p to 308p on news *that* **Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries** is extending its offer terms.

On the USM **Good Relations**, the public relations and advertising company, jumped 2p to close at 199p after the chairman reported that the improved economic climate would lead to a greater demand for its services.

Oil shares like **BP** at 370p and **Britoil** at 180 lost 4p to 6p although **Ultramar** ended the day unchanged at 537p after first-quarter results.

Barton agrees new £10m Caparo bid

By Jeremy Warner

The directors of Barton Group, a Birmingham-based tubing, industrial services and engineering company, has agreed to a cash and preference share bid worth £10.2m from Caparo Industries.

Caparo, a steel stock-holding and engineering group, was forced into making a bid under City takeover rules early last month when it acquired a 20.5 per cent stake in Barton from Staveley, thereby taking its holding to more than 30 per cent.

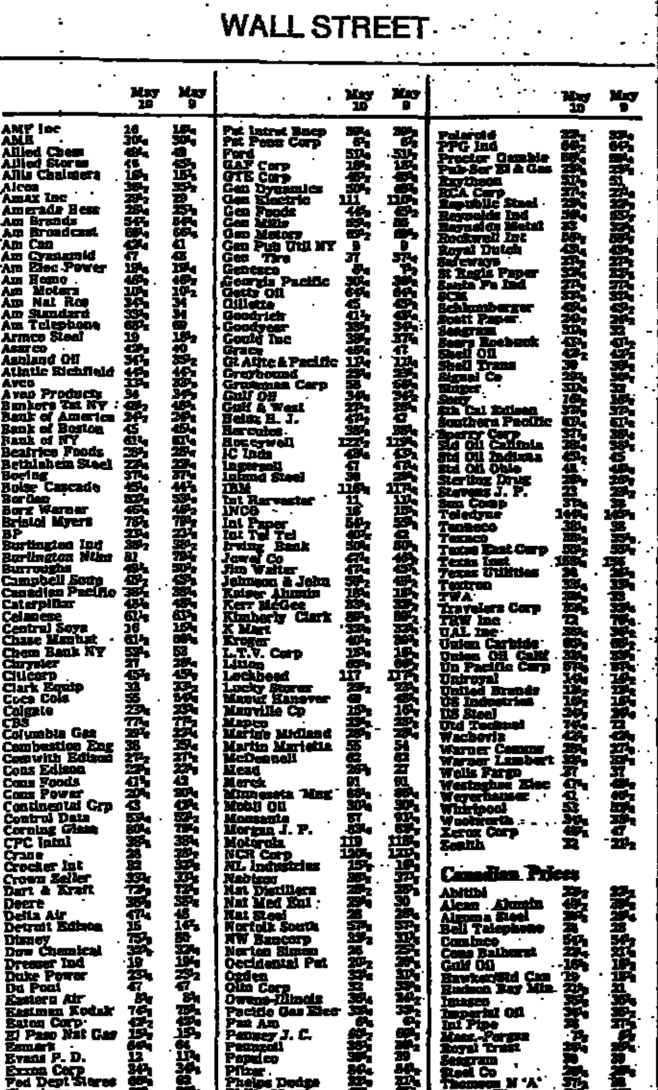
An £8m bid was then made, but the Barton directors set about improving the terms.

The new terms are worth 200p in cash and two and a quarter 8.75 per cent convertible redeemable preference shares for every ten Barton shares. Merchant bank, Kleinwort Benson, has underwritten the shares element in the offer to the tune of £1 for each preference share. This puts a value on each Barton share of 42.5p.

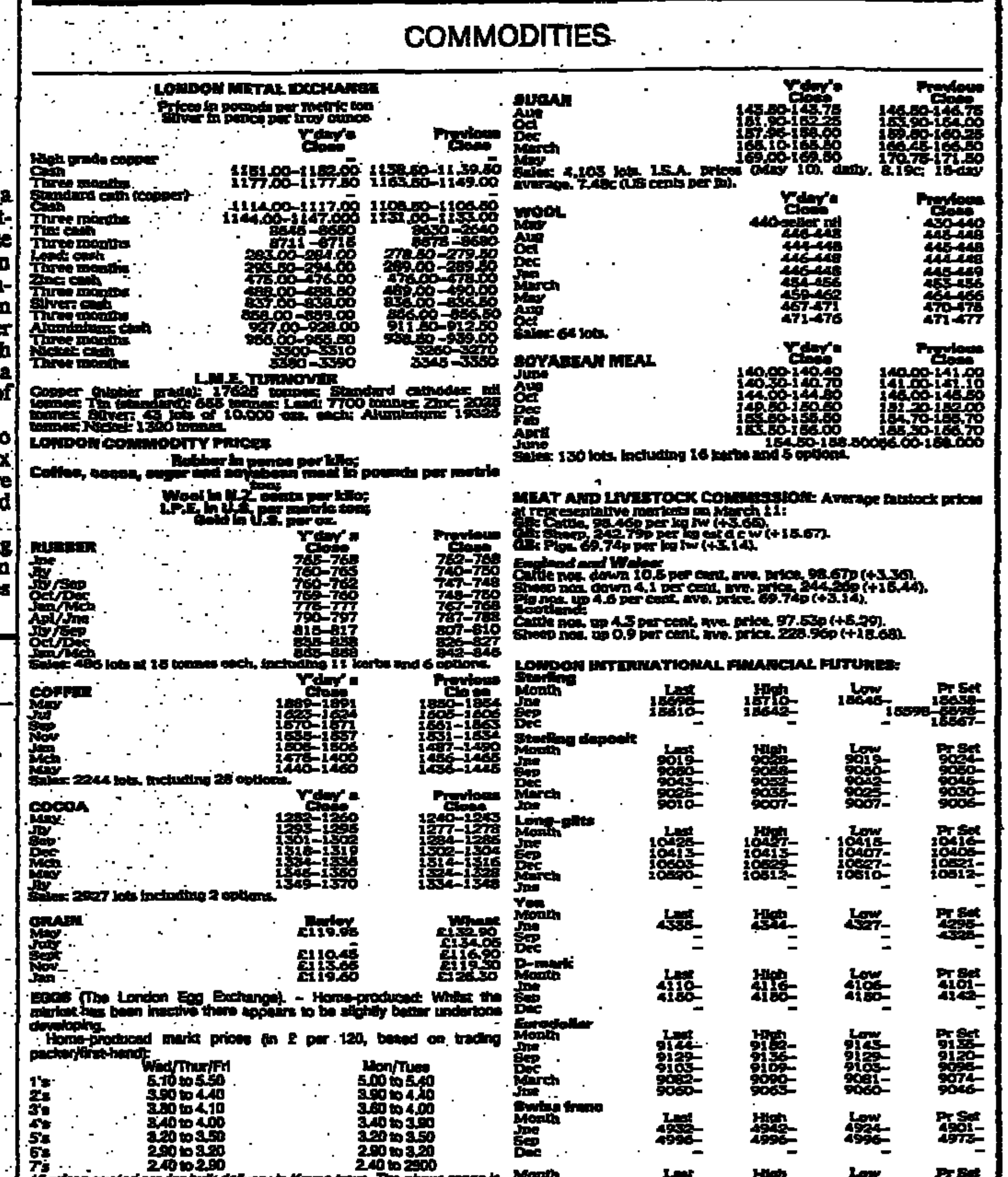
The directors of Barton, who are forecasting that pretax profits this year will be more than £1.2m, have recommended the offer as fair and reasonable.

Staveley had been attempting to dispose of its stake in Barton since it sold its steel abrasives subsidiary in 1980.

WALL STREET



COMMODITIES



APPOINTMENTS

Seagram UK chief wins seat on main board

Mr Robert Hermans, managing director of Seagram (UK), has been appointed a director of Seagram Distillers, the holding company for all Seagram's operations in the United Kingdom.

Mrs Diane Brown, the Chemical Industries Association environment executive, has been elected chairman of the Society of Chemical Industry's Water and Environment Group. She is the first woman to chair this group and will serve for two years.

Mr P. G. Cazalet has been appointed a non-executive director of The De La Rue Company. Mr Cazalet is managing director of The British Petroleum Company and a non-executive director of Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company.

Mr Norman Hawkins, Cadbury sales director, becomes commercial director in the UK confectionery division. Mr Colin James and Mr John Tweedale are appointed divisional sales directors, responsible for the retail and wholesale sales forces respectively.

Mr Alan Fox, now deputy chairman of Longton Industrial Holdings, becomes non-executive chairman, Mr David Fisher is the new chief executive and Mr Harry Smith continues as deputy chief executive. Mr Graham Gascoigne has been appointed finance director. Mr Alfred Dale has retired as chairman and chief executive but remains an executive director of Longton Industrial Holdings. Mr Eric Sherratt also retires as finance director but remains a non-executive director.

Mr John Ferris, chairman and managing director of Wessex Decorators (Southern), Bristol, has been elected president of the National Federation of Painting and Decorating Contractors for 1983/84. The new senior vice-president is Mr John Milne, joint managing director of Daly (Painting Contractors), Coventry, and the junior vice-president is Mr C. T. Holmes, chairman of Cyril Holmes (Painters), Barry, South Glamorgan.

Mr Stuart Walsh has been promoted to director at MSA (Management Science America) Limited.

Mr Peter Goldman has been elected president of the Bureau European des Unions de Consommateurs (BEUC) – the consortium of consumer organisations in EEC countries. Mr Goldman, the director of Consumer's Association, publishers of *Which?* since 1964, is the first British president of BEUC.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10 %
Barclays	10 %
BCCI	10 %
Consolidated Crds	10 %
C. Hoare & Co	*10 %
Lloyds Bank	10 %
Midland Bank	10 %
Nat Westminster	10 %
TSB	10 %
Williams & Glyn's	10 %

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6¼%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 7⅛%; £50,000 and over, 8¼%.

FOOTBALL: EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP FINAL

Aberdeen victorious at the last

Strachan: industrious

From Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent
Gothenburg

Aberdeen 2
Real Madrid 1
After extra time. Score at 90 mins 1-1

An extra-time goal from Hewitt brought Aberdeen victory in the European Cup-Winners' Cup final here last night.

But for a huge tarpaulin that covered the whole surface, the match would never have taken place. As it was, before the referee made a brief inspection, Aberdeen chose to warm up in hooded tracksuits to protect themselves from the torrential rain which had been falling persistently since noon. The pitch, shimmering in the floodlights, was like a green handkerchief floating on a lake.

Such appalling conditions seemed to favour the stronger and fitter Scots, but few could have expected them to start so sensationally. The "wee man" responsible was Strachan, his fiery red hair already plastered to his face. Real recognizing the danger, instructed their tightest marker, Angel, to follow him, but twice in the opening minutes he disobeyed orders.

Strachan first cushioned Metgod's misdirected goal kick on his chest and chipped towards Black, the forward, aged 18, who has been injured and unable to play for almost a month. There was no rustiness in the way that he leant back and struck a remarkable 20-yard volley.

Augustin, startled by such early adventure, did well to tip that shot onto the bar. In the seventh, minute Aberdeen went ahead. Strachan, after pausing while the referee replaced the ball for the second time, picked out McLeish, advancing rapidly and unnoticed from midfield for a corner. His header was deflected into the path of Black, who prodded home his fourth goal in the competition.

But the conditions also encouraged errors and Aberdeen were to pay dearly for their first after a quarter of an hour. Miller's back-pass stuck in the mud and Leighton caught the legs of Santillana, Real's captain and leading scorer, as he went by. Juanito equalized cleanly from the penalty-spot.

As Real's more aged limbs began to tire, Aberdeen grew fresher by the minute in comparison, and all the closing opportunities fell their way. Augustin caused a moment's anxiety by dropping another Weir centre ten minutes from the end of normal time, but he recovered from his mistake in time.

Strachan, as positive and as industrious as ever, created the opening for himself by dummying his way through on the right. There, caught between crossing towards Weir and trying a shot, he succeeded only in lifting his effort gently over the bar.

ABERDEEN: J Leighton; D Rougvie, J McMaster, N Cooper, A McLeish, W Miller, G Strachan, N Simpson, M McGhee, E Black, P Weir.

REAL MADRID: R Agustin; J Juan José, J Camacho, J Metgod, F Bonet, R Gallego, J Juanito, & Angel, C Santillana, U Stielike, D Isidoro.

Referee: G Menegali (Italy).

Last night's result

FIRST DIVISION: Tottenham Hotspur 2, Manchester United 0.

● Derby County are to receive nearly £100,000 sponsorship next season. All the stands at the Baseball Ground will be sponsored and there will also be backing from a brewery who are selling a drink called Rams Cola throughout Derbyshire. Derby's nickname is the Rams.

● Bradford City have given free transfers to a defender, Les Chapman, their only ever-present this season, and to their goalkeeper, Neil Ramsbottom, aged 37.

Relegation worries are eased

Burnley's 2-1 defeat of Queens Park Rangers at Turf Moor and Middlesbrough's 2-0 vitory over Crystal Palace at Ayresome Park has intensified the second division relegation battle. Burnley remain bottom, but with two games to play can still escape the drop. Middlesborough were third from bottom, but the three points gained against Palace took them six places up the table to comparative safety.

Arsenal's 3-1 victory over West Ham spoiled Trevor Brooking's first team comeback at Upton Park where Van Der Elst, who is shortly to return to his native Belgium scored for the home team.

First division
WEST HAM (0) 1 — ARSENAL (3) 3
van der Elst — Petrovic, Whyte, McDermott
28,930

Second division
BURNLEY (2) 2 — QP RANGERS (0) 1
Donovan 2 — Sealy
7,191

MIDDLESBRO (1) 2 — C PALACE (0) 0
Hamilton
Otto (pen)
10,014

BOTTOM POSITIONS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	41	12	11	18	67	69	47
Middlesbrough	41	11	14	16	46	67	47
Chelsea	41	11	13	17	51	61	46
Derby County	41	9	19	13	48	58	46
Grimsby	41	12	10	19	44	69	46
Crystal Pal	40	11	12	17	41	50	45
Charlton	41	12	9	20	59	85	45
Bolton	41	11	11	19	41	57	44
Rotherham	41	10	14	17	43	66	44
Burnley	40	12	7	21	56	65	43

Third division
HUDDERSFIELD (1) 1 — WIGAN (1) 1
Russell — Brown (og)
11,093

PORTSMOUTH (1) 1 — WALSALL (0) 0
Aizlewood
22,244

Fourth division
HALIFAX (1) 1 — WIMBLEDON (0) 1
Spooner — Fishenden
1,233

Welsh Cup
Final, first leg
WREXHAM (1) 1 — SWANSEA (1) 2
Dowman — Gale, Latchford
2,296

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Cheshunt 1, Walton and Hersham 0. Second division: Corinthian-Casuals 2, Dorking 0; Epping 1, Harlow 3; Hemel Hempstead 2, Letchworth Garden City 2; Rainham 3, Finchley 2.

Liverpool fillip for Robson

By Peter Ball

If Bobby Robson was beginning to feel that picking a cricket team to tour Australia was a simple task compared to finding a football side to go there, his brooding was lessened a little yesterday. Liverpool, whose players had been expected to be unavailable owing to club commitments announced that the dates for their two-match trip to the Far East did not clash with England's scheduled tour of Australia.

The Liverpool tour is expected to end on June 8 or June 9, probably in Bangkok, and the first of England's three matches against Australia is on June 12. The players will be asked if they are prepared to fly on to Australia to join up with the England party and, given their past record of enthusiasm for England, it is expected that they will agree. The news could hardly have come at a better time for Robson, who yesterday saw another casualty drop out of the reckoning when Alvin Martin of West Ham was injured. With Arsenal, Tottenham, Manchester United and Ipswich players already ruled out by club commitments, his side was beginning to appear thin.

Liverpool's news will provide a fillip. Neal and Klee have been regulars this season, and the return to fitness of Thompson, who lost his place through injury, will go some way to compensating for the absence of Martin along with the two Ipswich candidates for a berth in the central defence, Osman and Butcher. The left-back, Kennedy, may also come into the reckoning.

With Watford agreeing to give England preference over their club tour to China, Robson's options are looking brighter than they had appeared a few days ago. If Neal, Lee, Thompson and Blissett join Shilton, Cowans, Hill and Chamberlain, they should prove strong enough to defeat the 'Socceroos' even if not capable of recovering the Ashes.

The worst-kept secret in football yesterday became official. The Belgian first division club, Antwerp, announced that they had reached agreement with Arsenal's Yugoslav international midfield player, Vladimir Petrovic, and that he will sign a two-year contract for them on July 1.

Petrovic, who finally joined Arsenal for £400,000 from Red Star Belgrade in December, after the Yugoslav Football Association had delayed his clearance for the first four months of the season, is expected to make his farewell appearance for the London club at Villa Park on Saturday.

Ironically, he probably had his best game for Arsenal on Tuesday night at West Ham, where he played a major part in Arsenal's 3-1 victory. That performance, however, came too late to prevent a parting of the ways, Petrovic, like many of his compatriots, finding adapting to the rigours of the Football League an almost insurmountable task.

He was not helped by the failure to give him an extended run or by Arsenal's inconsistent form during his period with them, nor by the left-sided bias of Arsenal's play, the partnership of Sansom and Rix being the channel through which much of their play is directed.

The natural tendency to look left resulted in Petrovic remaining an isolated figure on the right touch-line for long periods. "I keep telling them to give him the ball more," one Arsenal player said to me a few weeks ago, "because his skill could provide us with another option, but everyone is always looking at him, turning the other way and playing it away from him".

Petrovic's skill, although only seen fleetingly, has endeared him to a section of Arsenal fans.

Cunningham's Cup Final chance

Now that Steve Coppell has finally lost his struggle for fitness the way is open for either Ashley Grimes or Laurie Cunningham to make an unexpected Cup Final appearance, Peter Ball Writes. Coppell, who has not played since injuring knee on April 4, admitted late on Tuesday night that his chance of being ready in time to take his place on Manchester United's wing had disappeared.

Cunningham, who is on loan from Real Madrid until the end of the season, appeared the natural replacement, but he has also had a long fight-back after an injury which undermined his career in Spain. He missed last night's match at Tottenham and if he is unable to play in United's last League match on Saturday, Grimes could claim the place.

Grimes had a run in the team earlier this season as deputy for Arnols Muhren on the left side of midfield and in recent games he has replaced Albiston at left-back. Under Dave Sexton the Irish international appeared for a time on the right wing, although he is a naturally left-footed player.

Although United's injury problems appear to be easing, McQueen, Wilkins, Muhren and Albiston have all been troubled by niggling injuries in recent weeks. However, Ron Atkinson, the United manager, said yesterday that he hoped Cunningham would be fit for Saturday's game against Notts County.



Grimes: final candidate

IN BRIEF

Thompson will not back down

Daley Thompson is still confident of winning the decathlon title at the World Championships in Helsinki in August, despite a back injury that has caused him to miss eight weeks' winter training. "I think I can win", he said yesterday. "Even if my back wasn't 100 per cent I would still compete because that's what it is all about".

Thompson has had no treatment for his injury. "I don't like doctors", he explained. "I don't want to become a hypochondriac".

RUGBY LEAGUE: The ban on international transfers, severely criticised in recent months, will be lifted later this year if a proposal by the Rugby League Council is accepted by the International Board. The council's move was welcomed by Alex Gerlis of the Players' Union. "It is in the long-term interests of the game for our players to go to Australia and for Australians to come here". he said.

CRICKET: Frank Collyer, the Hertfordshire wicketkeeper, has taken over from David Bailey of Cheshire as captain of the Minor Counties. His players for the opening two Benson and Hedges matches are:

(Saturday, May 14 v Sussex at Hove): S G Plumb (Norfolk), W M Osman (Herts), D Bailey (Cheshire), N I O'Brien (Cheshire), A Kennedy (Wiltshire), J G Tolchard (Devon), I L Pont (Buckinghamshire), S M Clements (Suffolk), D Surridge (Herts), J A Claughton (Berks). (Tuesday, May 17 v Essex at Slough): Plumb, Osman, Bailey, O'Brien, Kennedy, Surridge, Claughton, N A Riddell (Durham), S Greensword (Durham), S Davis (Durham).

BASKETBALL: Asda Superstores have renewed their sponsorship with the English Basketball Association (EBBA) for a fourth year. All 26 first and second division clubs and one non-league club have entered this season's Asda Cup, the final of which will be held at the Albert Hall in January.

TENNIS

The fall of Clerc was music to Borowiak

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Jeff Borowiak, aged 33, who ranks 95th in the world, beat José Luis Clerc, ranked eighth, by 7-5, 6-4 to reach the last 16 of the singles in the German championships here yesterday. Borowiak, a musician and something of a philosopher, is noted for occasional results that upset the odds: and Clerc was unusually vulnerable because, this year, his game has temporarily lost its edge.

Five men ranked in the world's top ten – Ivan Lendl, Guillermo Vilas, Mats Willander, José Higueras and Jannick Noah – are among those still in the running for the first prize of £27,250. Willander, aged 18, took two hours and ten minutes to beat Manuel Orantes, aged 34, by 4-6, 6-2, 6-4 in a delightful match that contrasted two generations – and two different schools of clay court expertise.

Rain gave Orantes a useful respite of an hour and 38 minutes when Willander was serving at 3-5 and 30-all in the first set. Orantes won that set and was serving for a 3-1 lead in the second. But a run of nine games out of ten took Willander to 4-1 in the third set before Orantes breathed fresh life into the match before recovering to 4-5. Had Willander lost, he would have asked for a place in the draw at next week's Italian championsips. As it is, Hamburg will be his last tournament before he defends the French championship.

Orantes has had five operations and, can joke about having a private parking place at the hospital because they think he is on the staff. It is always a joy to have him around, for two reasons: First, he is a sprtsman who enjoys his tennis, expressively shares his pleasure with his opponents and the public, and thus reminds us that charm is better entertainment than bad manners. Second, he belongs to the old school of clay-court tacticians who used subtlety, variety and touch (the last quality was evident yesterday in his superb use of the drop shot) rather than the tediously attritional methods, often two-handed on the backhand, of such players as Willander and Bjorn Borg.

Noah, whose failure to turn up for a "dead" World Team Cup match in Düsseldorf last Saturday caused much embarrassment and anger, said here yesterday: "I did not know it was important. We had already lost. I thought someone would replace me. But I didn't call, they were expecting me and I couldn't make it back to Düsseldorf. There would have been no problem if I had been in Düsseldorf – but I was in Paris, and I was not supposed to be."

Noah could be fined almost £13,000 and suspended for anytuhing between 21 days and a year. His explanation is that he was aflicted by stomach pains on Friday evening, went to hospital, was given some pills and then slept until 4pm on Saturday. He said yesterday that he had documentary evidence that he was in hospital from 2am until 4am on Saturday.

"I am very sorry for the tournament and very embarrassed. I hope people are not going to judge me by this very big mistake. But there is nothing I can do now.

Wild card for Miss Barker

Sue Barker has been given a wild card into the Paddington international tournament, which starts at Paddington Sports Club, Maida Vale, on Saturday. She has dropped to 63rd in the world rankings during the past year and this month lost in the opening rounds of the Italian and Swiss tournaments.

Sue Mappin, the British women's team trainer, said: "Sue needs a series of wins to boost her confidence before the grass court season starts

Bates upsets seedings

By Richard Eaton

Jeremy Bates, the unseeded British No. 7, confounded the seedings and the British rankings for the second day in a row in the Pernod Tournament at Lee-on-the-Solent yesterday. He reached the third round with a 7-5, 6-3 against the British No. 2, Andrew Jarrett. It was the eighth seeding upset so far and followed Bates's dismissal of the British No. 6, John Feaver, the day before.

His ground strokes, with a nice mixture of slice and roll, were better adapted to the conditions than the heavily top-spun measures which Jarrett tried to use to hit his way through the wind. Bates's concentration, too, was good. At 20 he is clearly a coming man.

Jarrett by contrast, was often psychologically fragile. At 5-4 up in the first set – the only time he was ahead – he called the referee Bea Seal, on to the court and asked for the match to be stopped because of the wind. There was, of course no chance of that. Instead, there was every likelihood that the request would provide him with the mental excuse for the defeat he feared. Three games in a row and the set immediately went his opponent's way.

Another 20-year-old, Nick Brown, the British No 15, began his match at 10.30am and finished seven hours and 52 minutes later with a 7-6, 6-4 win

MEN'S SINGLES: Second round: B. Foxworth (US) bt G Kelovelonis (GR) 1-6, 6-1, 1-6; S. Lipton (US) bt S. Bale 6-2, 6-2; J Bates bt A Jarrett 7-5, 6-4; N Brown bt G Whitecroft (Aus) 7-6, 6-4; D Schneider (Isr) bt D Mustard (NZ) 6-3, 3-6, 6-4.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Second round: D. Jarrett bt M. Bladell (US) 6-2, 6-4; A. Brown bt N. Herreman (Fr) 6-3, 6-0, T Scheur-Larsen (Den) bt D Freeman (Aus) 7-6, 6-1; J Warringa (Neth) bt M van der Torre (Neth) 6-1, 6-1; R Einy bt K Moos (Neth) 6-1, 6-1; C Drury bt I Verhoeven (Fr) 7-6, 6-4.

FOR THE RECORD

CYCLING

WARSAW: Peace race: third stage (150 km, Torun to Poznan): 1, O Ludwig (EG), 3hr 31min (10 sec bonus); 2, A Sereduk (Pol), 3:31.04 (6); 3, O Tchushra (USSR), 3:31.07 (3); 4, B Wekwns (Neth), 3:31.10; 5, U Raab (EG), same time. Overall: 1, Tchushda, 11:28:32; 2, Ugryumov (USSR), 11:28:40; 3, F Boden (EG), 11:28:41; 4, Wekwns, 11:28:48; 5, A Sereduk (Pol), 11:28:52. Team: 1, E Germany, 34:25:47; 2, USSR, 34:25:58; 3, Poland, 34:26:45; 4, Netherlands, 34:26:48; 5, Czechoslovakia, 34:30:15; 16, GB, 35:51:10.

FOOTBALL

TIRANA: European championship: group six: Albania 1, Turkey 1.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Detroit Tigers 4, Oakland A's 3; Cleveland Indians 4, Kansas City Royals 1; California Angels 6, Boston Red Sox 5; Baltimore Orioles 13, Seattle Mariners 2; Texas Rangers 4, New York Yankees 2; Milwaukee Brewers 4, Minnesota Twins 1. NATIONAL LEAGUE: Philadelphia Phillies 3, Cincinnati Reds 1; Atlanta Braves 4, Montreal Expos 2; Houston Astros 5, New York Mets 4; San Diego Padres 4, Pittsburgh Pirates 1; Chicago Cubs 3, Los Angeles Dodgers 2; St Louis Cardinals 8, San Francisco Giants 4.

TENNIS

LUGANO: Swiss Open (US unless stated) First round: S Collins bt P Smith, 6-4, 6-2; C Jolissaint (Switz) bt J Kitch, 6-1, 6-2; L Pichova (Cz) bt S Rehe, 7-6, 6-2; V Wade (GB) bt J Harrington, 7-6, 6-4; L Arraya (Peru) bt S Amiach (Fr), 3-2, 2-6, 6-3; R Tomanova Roth (Cz) led Delhees (Switz) 5-4 (rain stopped play). Second round: Y Vermaak (SA) bt Duk Hee Lee (S Korea), 7-5, 6-1; B Gadusek bt E Longo (Arg), 6-4, 4-6, 7-5; L Romanov (Rom) bt M Maleeva (Bul), 6-1, 6-3.

RESULTS: Men's singles, second round: M Wilander (Swe) bt M Orantes (Sp) 4-6, 6-2, 6-4; G Vilas (Arg) bt A Maurer (WG) 6-4, 6-3; B Taroczy (Hun) bt E Edwards (SA) 6-2, 6-4; E Teltscher (US) bt S Casal (Sp) 6-3, 6-4; J Aguilera (Sp) bt P Slozil (Cz) 2-6, 6-1, 6-4; T Smid (Cz) bt A Jarryd (Swe) 6-0, 6-2; Y Noah (F) bt B Boileau (Bel) 6-2, 6-4; B Gottfried (US) bt R Vizcaino (Sp) 6-3, 1-6, 6-3; J Brown (US) bt A Ganzabal (Arg) 6-1, 6-2.

KOBE: Tournament first round: Men: K Rosewall (Aus) bt N Fraser (Aus), 6-0, 7-6. Women: L Thompson (US) bt C Bassett (Can), 6-2, 6-1.

FLORENCE: Roger Gallet tournament: second round: J Arias (US) bt P Cash (Aus) 6-2, 6-3; S Simonsson (Swe) bt J Avendano (Sp) 1-6, 7-6, 6-4; A Gimenez (Sp) bt M Jaite (Sp), 4-6, 6-1, 6-0; T Tulasne (Fra) bt F Segarceanu (Rom), 6-3, 6-2.

SKIING: The World Alpine Skiing Cup committee have postponed a decision on proposals for the re-organization of the World Cup until 1985. It was decided that both Men's and Women's World Cups for 1983-84 Would begin at Kranska-Gora, Yugoslavia, and end in Oslo.

TENNIS: The Lawn Tennis Association have appointed David Roberts, who is coaching at a tennis and squash centre at Kappel in Switzerland, the national coach and development officer for the West Midlands, covering Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, Staffordshire, Shropshire and Warwickshire. He starts at the end of September.

FOOTBALL: Leicester City announced a shirt sponsorship deal worth about £90,000 with the Ind Coope brewery yesterday. The brewer's name will appear on Leicester's new strip for next season, and the team's away strip will be in the brewery colours of green and gold.

Second XI Competition

TAUNTON: Somerset v Hampshire, no play – ground waterlogged.
EASTBOURNE: Sussex v Kent, no play – rain.
HARROGATE: Yorkshire v Surrey, no play – wet outfield.

Other match

CAMBRIDGE: Cambridge University 337 for 4 dec (G Henderson 117, R Compton-Burnett 77, R Boyd-Moss 73); MCC 15 for 2

Pont 100 starts Essex recovery

By Richard Streeton

CHELMSFORD: Essex have scored 320 against Kent.

Keith Pont, who scored his first 100 for five years, led a fight-back by the mid-order Essex batsmen against Kent yesterday. From the plight of 108 for four, Essex only narrowly failed to finish with maximum batting points.

Dilley, who dismissed Gooch with the first ball of the match, took five wickets and bowled with a pace and smooth rhythm which could soon rekindle the interest of the England selectors.

Dilley, used in short spells, maintained imposing speed throughout a day of mixed sunshine and cloud, but his opening ball to Gooch was as fast as any he managed later. Among the great post-war fast bowlers, Lindwall had this knack, owing much, he once said in a book, to prolonged warming-up exercises in the dressing room. All the Kent players on this occasion had done more running and other exercises on the outfield beforehand than their predecessors in past decades would have done in a month.

After wet surrounds delayed play for half-an-hour, Gooch hurriedly played back to Dilley's first ball and could do little more than jab it into the ground, and its momentum carried it into the stumps. Fletcher caught the second ball for four to the vacant third-man position and edged another boundary to the same place in Dilley's second over. Three times though, Fletcher was beaten by sheer speed outside the off stump. Dilley's line remained consistent and nobody played him with confidence.

On an amiable pitch, Ellison obtained a little movement off the seam, and Underwood looked in good order, as did Knott behind the wicket. Tavaré's unobtrusive captaincy caught the eye, and it should also be noted that Kent were fielding a side of home-produced players.

Fletcher settled down to play better than anyone, except Pont, and scored especially well with strokes past cover on the back foot. Hardie pushed forward to Ellison and was caught low down by Knott; McEwan was bowled by the same bowler trying to on-drive.

Fletcher's seventh and eighth fours, to cover and third man in the same Woolmer over, took him to 53, but soon afterwards, a lightning break back from Dilley knocked back his off-stump. Pringle stayed an hour before he gave a return catch against Underwood's slower ball.

ESSEX: First Innings

G A Gooch b Dilley	0
B R Hardie c Knott b Ellison	15
*K W R Fletcher b Dilley	55
K S McEwan b Ellison	29
K R Pont b Dilley	105
D R Pringle c and b Underwood	19
N Phillip c Cowdrey b Woolmer	40
†D E East b Dilley	12
R E East c Tavaré b Underwood	2
J K Lever b Dilley	26
D L Acfield not out	0
Extras (b 1, l-b 13, n-b 3)	17
Total	320

Score at 100 overs: 299 for 8.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-41, 3-91, 4-108, 5-198, 6-269, 7-288, 8-291, 9-299, 10-320.

BOWLING: Dilley 31.4-3-70-5; Jarvis 18-4-53-0; Ellison 26-5-74-2; Underwood 22-8-66-2; Woolmer 9-3-26-1; Johnson 8-1-14-0.

R A Woolmer, N R Taylor, *C J Tavaré, M R Benson, C S Cowdrey, †A P E Knott, G W Johnson, R M Ellison, G R Dilley, D L Underwood, K B S Jarvis.

Bonus points (to date): Essex 3, Kent 3.

Umpires: D O Oslear and R A White.

Lynch adds a little sunshine

By Alan Ross

At the Oval: Surrey have scored 170 for 4 wickets.

Tolchard put Surrey in and condemned his bowlers to a wet ball and his fielders to several sweaters. By the end of a messy and fragmented day, Surrey had reached 170 for 4, Lynch having raced to 50 with great smoothness in under an hour. Leicestershire, still without Taylor, bowled pretty well in discouraging circumstances.

In the two hours before tea, Surrey scored 85 and lost three wickets. At 10, Roberts had Clinton paying the ball on to his stumps and then at 14, Butcher was leg-before, pushing forward to Parsons. Parsons, bustling and lively, had an opening spell of 13 overs, making the batsman play most of the time and occasionally whipping the good length ball away from him.

Knight batted with some elegance throughout the afternoon, driving through the covers and steering several boundaries wide of gully. Howarth, too, appeared on reasonably good terms with himself until, at 60 he swung at a short ball from Parsons and was on his way long before Tolchard had caught it.

At tea, Knight was 34 and Lynch 14. Lynch, now sprang into action. In quick succission he hooked, pulled and off drove Roberts, once for six, and then on dorve Cook to the pavilion. Knight, suddenly overhauled, struck Cook handsomely past mid-off to raise 50 for the partnership.

Leicestershire cannot have been too upset when darkness descended and this savage onslaught got interrupted. Twenty minutes later they were back again, but only briefly. Knight only just had time to touch a good one from Roberts, and Tolchard took a neat catch.

At 6 pm, with three and a quarter hours lost but with the weather looking more serene than at any time earlier, they returned for a final fling. To the delight of the solitary paying spectator still there Lynch crashed Parsons' opening ball to the long off boundary and hooked the next.

SURREY: First Innings

A R Butcher l-b-w b Parsons	9
G S Clinton b Roberts	2
G P Howarth c Tolchard b Parsons	20
*R D V Knight c Tolchard b Roberts	40
M A Lynch not out	69
†C J Richards not out	21
Extras (l-b 6, w 1, n-b 2)	9
Total (4 wkts, 51 overs)	170

I J Curtis, D J Thomas, G Monkhouse, S T Clarke and P I Pocock to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-14, 3-60, 4-127.

LEICESTERSHIRE: J C Balderstone, R A Cobb, D I Gower, B F Davison, N E Briers, †R W Tolchard, G J Parsons, A M E Roberts, J F Steele, J P Agnew, N G B Cook.

Bonus points (to date): Surrey 1, Leicestershire 1.

Umpires: J H Harris and K E Palmer.

CRICKET

Two players with something to prove prove something

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire have scored 198 for two wickets.

With the weather as it is, it felt more as though half a day's play was gained and half a day lost. In the three hours and a quater of play that were possible, Northamptonshire having chosen to bat, have scored 198 for two, the best innings coming from Cook, who in more senses than one, looked more at home than in Australia.

Although Baird, bless him, was one of them, The umpires squeezed in all the play they could. Until the last hour there were few breaks in the clouds. We were lucky, I think, that the ain was prolonged only before lunch. There were, in fact, only three overs in the morning, but only ten minutes were lost before 2.40 and the close.

Cook and Larkins both have something to prove: Cook that if he is not a Test player his is at least a very good county one, Larkins that his is the better player of the two. Yesterday, while they were making 49 together for Northmaptonshire's first wicket, ther was nothing to choose between them. When they were not being beaten outside the off stump by Hadlee, they were playing some good, crisp strokes. Having just been driven and pulled for successive fours by Larkins, Hadlee tried him with a slower ball which Larkins, playing too soon, hist straight to short leg.

Willey came next, bearded and bare-headed. H. is a man of few words, firm opinions and the most two-eyed stance in cricket, so two-eyed that gully now sees only the back of his head. He is in trouble with his committee for having taken, too unequivocally for their liking, the side of the groundsman they have just dismissed. The feeling in Northampton is that Willey's contract – which expires at the end of the season – may well not be renewed. This would be a pity. At 33 he is in his prime; he has sterling qualities and strokes of such power that they would be much missed by Northamptonshire.

Last season was the best he has had, and he has started this one by making 53, 175 not out and now 52 not out, in his three championship innings.

The lack of cricket showed in the Nottinghamshire bowling. Hadlee and Cooper had difficulty getting their line right. This still did not stop Hadlee, being the fine bowler he is, beating the bat a couple of times an over in his new ball spell. Hemmings, who had much the longest bowl, seemed out of sorts, at any rate to start with, and at odds with Rice over the field he should have. At times he had seven on the leg side, only two of them close up. It was mainly negative stuff.

Cook had just hit Hemmings for four fours in five balls – 18 came off the over – when, driving at Saxelby, he was comfortably caught at mid-off. Cook had shown excellent form, quite good enough to catch the selectors' eye if they had not already given him his Test chance. For a long time Willey found it much harder going. In other years he might have lost patience. Not now, though, the more runs he makes the more members will want to see him back next season.

If the pitch was too slow, that was hardly the fault of Norman Hever, the new groundsman. It is not often that a former first-class player is given charge of a first-class ground. The outfield was far drier than most can possibly be at the moment, and in good shape.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

*G Cook c Birch b Saxelby	71
W Larkins c Hassan b Hadlee	28
P Willey not out	52
A J Lamb not out	43
Extras (l-b 4)	
Total (2 wkts, 68 overs)	198

R G Williams, D J Capel, D S Steele, †G Sharp, N A Mallender, J A Carse and B J Griffiths to bat. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-49, 2-113.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: R T Robinson, B Hassan, D W Randall, *C E B Rice, J D Birch, R J Hadlee, †B N French, K Saxelby, E E Hemmings, K E Cooper, M Hendrick.

Bonus points (to date) Northamptonshire 1.

Umpires: A D Bird and A Jepson.

Brilliant century by King for Worcester

By Peter Marson

WORCESTER: Worcestershire, with 1 first innings wicket in hand, have scored 329 runs against Somerset

Collis King, the West Indian batsman whom Worcestershire have invited to plug the gap left by Glenn Turner, made the best possible beginning yesterday, scoring a brilliant maiden hundred for the county in which he hit five sixes and 11 fours, with his last 50 runs made off 25 balls.

Talk of rain and yet more rain has tended to saturate cricketing conversation around county grounds so far this season, but bad weather, whichever way you looked at it, scarcely got a look in at New Road. Overnight rain did have a part to play by delaying the start until 20 minutes to two.

As a talking point – well, until King began to hoist the ball out of the ground – there had been nothing to match Younis Ahmed's infamous £100 wager on Saturday last and the subsequent termination of his contract by Worcestershire. Younis joined the county at the start of the 1979 season, and by the end of it he had been capped. It was in that same season, too, tha Younis hit 221, his top score, and with Ormrod put on 281 runs for the fourth wicket, a county record.

Neither this, nor the fact that Younis stood second to Glenn Turner last season with a batting average of 54.21, and passed 1,000 runs for the 11th time deterred one loyal supporter, a prophet, too, perhaps, who was adamant that Collis King would make more runs at number five than Younis ever did.

Winning the toss and batting first on a pitch where the ball's bounce was both slow and low, Ormrod and Weston had begun caustiously, scoring 79 runs from 36 overs before Ormrod fell to a catch at silly point.

King: assault on bowlers

Marks, and Palmer, a medium paced bowler who was standing in for Garner, then won the second round for Somerset by quickly taking the wickets of Neale and Weston.

King walked in briskly and having taken guard was just as quickly about his business with four runs to square leg off Marks. He looked much more assured after tea

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

J A Ormrod c Lloyds b Marks	45
M J Weston c Dredge b Palmer	32
*P A Neale c Popplewell b Marks	4
D N Patel c Palmer b Wilson	26
C L King c Popplewell b Dredge	123
M S A McEvoy c Popplewell b Marks	25
R K Illingworth c Gard b Marks	21
J D Inchmore c Gard b Dredge	0
†P Moores b Botham	19
A E Warner not out	20
Extras (b 6, l-b 8)	
Total (9 wkts, 87.3 overs)	329

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-79, 2-87, 3-87, 4-156, 5-253, 6-275, 7-276, 8-292, 9-329.

SOMERSET: J W Lloyds, P M Roebuck, I V A Richards, *B C Rose, I T Botham, N F M Popplewell, V J Marks, G V Palmer, C H Dredge, †T Gard, P H L'E Wilson.

Bonus points (to date): Worcestershire 4, Somerset 4.

Umpires: C Cook and N T Plews.

Quick blows to Derby

By Gerald Richmond

CHESTERFIELD: Derbyshire have scored 51 for two wickets in their first inning against Lancashire.

A tentative start to the match at Queen's Park was made yesterday after four inspections. This left 90 minutes' play but anything was a bonus because, in common with most counties, these two have played little cricket. Lancashire have managed only one full day so far and Derbyshire have had six out of a possible 10 washed out.

Lloyd won the toss and put Derbyshire in on a mildly paced pitch. Wood survived two appeals for leg-before in Allcott's opening over and also sparred uneasily outside the off stump. Wright, who is with the county only until he joins New Zealand for the Prudential World Cup and the tour of England, began startlingly by hitting Folley for six over square leg. A full toss in the same over offered another opportunity, but, decieved by the lack of pace, Wright missed and was leg-before. Wood played only two scoring strokes before he was bowled in Watkinson's first over.

Hill and Barnett, who has been elevated in the order to fill in for the absent Kirsten, began to repair the damage. Both drove Watkinson through the off side for four

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

B Wood b Watkinson	4
J G Wright l-b-w b Folley	6
A Hill not out	14
K J Barnett not out	21
Extras (l-b 2, n-b 4)	6
Total (2 wkts, 25 overs)	51

J H Hampshire, *G Miller, I S Anderson, P G Newman, C J Tunnicliffe, †R W Taylor and D G Moir to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-16. LANCASHIRE: G Fowler, M Watkinson, S J O'Shaughnessy, D P Hughes, F C Hayes, *C H Lloyd, J Abrahams, J Simmons, †C Maynard, P J W Allott, I Folley.

Umpires: J Van Geloven and B J Meyer.

No play yesterday

GLOUCESTER: Gloucester v Sussex.
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Warwickshire.
LORD'S: Middlesex v Yorkshire.

TRENT BRIDGE: Warwickshire 303 for 6 dec (G H Wootton 77, P A Smith 74); Nottinghamshire 29 for 0.
OLD TRAFFORD: Glamorgan 301 for 9 v Lancashire.
ENFIELD: Essex 106 for 2 (P J Prichard 56 not out) v Middlesex.

Oxfordman carries bat

THE PARKS: Oxford University are 163 all out against Glamorgan.

Oxford University's opening batsman Richard Ellis, who will rejoin Middlesex after the universities match, carried his bat for 103 against Glamorgan. Oxford were all out for 163, and there was no time left for Glamorgan to bat.

Ellis batted for three and a half hours on a rain-affected day, and hit 16 boundaries. The most effective bowler was Glamorgan's captain, Mike Selvey, who took six for 47.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY First Innings

R G P Ellis not out	103
A J T Miller l-b-w b Selvey	6
G Franks l-b-w b Wilkins	15
*G J Toogood b Selvey	1
R P Moulding l-b-w b Selvey	0
†M R Cullinan c Lloyd b Selvey	0
J D Carr b Wilkins	2
H T Rawlinson c Miandad b Lloyd	11
J R Turnbull c Ontong b Lloyd	0
A H K Small b Selvey	3
R P Gibaut b Selvey	0
Extras (b 8, l-b 1, w 4, n-b 9)	22
Total ()	163

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-55, 3-57, 4-58, 5-60, 6-81, 7-122, 8-122, 9-159, 10-163.

BOWLING: Thomas 4-2-21-0; Selvey 20-8-47-6; Wilkins 8-0-25-2; Ontong 17-6-29-0; Lloyd 11-4-8-2; Rowe 2-1-11-0.

GLAMORGAN: A Jones, J A Hopkins, D A Francis, Javed Miandad, C J C Rowe, R C Ontong, †E W Jones, B J Lloyd, J G Thomas, *M W W Selvey, A H Wilkins.

Umpires: D G L Evans and P B Wight.

Incentive for England players

Ian Botham and David Gower, the two certain England selections, will pick up £8,400 each in appearance money alone this summer if Bob Willis's side reaches the Prudential World Cup final on June 25. The England players will receive £300 per match in the one-day tournament and £1,500 per test in the following Cornhill Test series against New Zealand.

With six group matches necessary this time, the minimum apearance fee will be £1,800 for the ever-present performers and another £600 available for reaching the semi-final and final. Another £6,000 will be earned for playing in all four tests against New Zealand.

In addition, there is the bait of a maximum £57,000 in prize money from the World Cup and Test series.

RACING: DANTE STAKES SURPRISE THROWS EPSOM MARKET INTO CONFUSION

Dunbeath's Derby bubble bursts

By Michael Seely

Dunbeath was removed from the Derby betting after finishing a well-beaten third to Hot Touch in the Mecca-Dante Stakes at York yesterday. The 2-1 on favourite was moved up to challenge halfway up the straight, only to weaken entering the last furlong. "He doesn't stay," Lester Piggott said. Be that as it may, the only answer must be to dismiss Dunbeath from Derby calculations.

Nothing must be allowed to detract from the merit of Hot Touch's victory. On Saturday, Geoffrey Wragg won the Lingfield Derby Trial with Teenoso. Yesterday Hot Touch put his rivals in their place equally firmly. Pat Eddery sent the colt into the lead two-and-a-half furlongs from home. Staying on with the utmost determination, Hot Touch beat Guns of Navarone by one and a half lengths, with Dunbeath 10 lengths away, third.

Not many horses win a group two classic trial after finishing fifth in a maiden race at Pontefract the same season. Yet there was not the semblance of a fluke about this win. "It's taken a long time to get him fit", the trainer said. "With hindsight, more use should have been made of Hot Touch when he finished second to Balladier at Newbury. In their last workout together, Hot Touch went a shade better than Teenoso. He would be the better over ten furlongs, but not over a mile-and-a-half."

Hot Touch was never entered for the Derby. "He's not an Epsom horse. His pasterns are too long, and the course wouldn't suit him." The colt will probably go for the Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby) at Chantilly on June 5.

The Wragg stable has always been one of the top yards in the country. Harry Wragg saddled six English Classic winners during a reign of over 30 years at Abingdon Place. And in his first season to hold the licence, his son is operating with an equally certain touch. At the end of March, the trainer said that Teenoso had the makings of a Derby horse, and events have dramatically proved his judgment right in this uncertain year.

The hunt is now on to find the possible winner of the Derby. Yesterday Vincent O'Brien confirmed Lomond as a certain runner in Saturday's Irish 2,000 Guineas, but the stable's Epsom plans are still uncertain. "It would be marvellous to be able to tell you," Robert Sangster said. "All we want to do is to win the Derby. But with four other possibles besides, it is still impossible to say. However, the picture must inevitably be much clearer after the weekend."

If Cecil is without a runner in the Derby, the burning question must now be what Piggott will ride as the maestro seeks an incredible ninth triumph in the Epsom classic. Tenoso and Tolomeo are obvious possibilities. Eddery, Teenoso's jockey yesterday, will be claimed for Ballydoyle's selected runner and Wragg would obviously be delighted to have Piggott's services. But so too, presumably, would be Luca Cumani for his fast finishing 2,000 Guineas runner-up, Tolomeo. Gianfranco Dettori is a fine jockey, but there is no substitute for previous successful experience in the Derby.

Predictably, the bookmakers are now as convinced as the punters. Both Ladbroke's and Essl bookmakers offer 5-2 against O'Brien's stable. The Tote go 9-2 Lomond, 11-2 Gorytus and offer 12-1 against Teenoso and Tolomeo. These prices do not make sense, as Lomond is not a certain runner and there is still a cloud hanging over Gorytus's handsome head. Teenoso and Tolomeo, on the other hand, are three-year-olds who have shown that they have trained on. And anyone who backs either of the pair at these prices will be taking good value, as they are bound to shorten before the big day.

The rest of yesterday's programme was also packed with interest. Jack Berry continued to blaze his trial of success when Clantime reversed recent Pontefract placing with Lak Lustre by a short head in the Tattersal's Yorkshire Stakes. Neither horse would give an inch as they fought out a desperate battle in the last two furlongs. "He's as game as a pebble and will now go for the Norfolk Stakes at Royal Ascot," the trainer said.

Bill Watts also showed us a useful two-year-old in Handstand, on whom Edward Hide gained his first victory since his suspension in the Scarborough Stakes. Wragg and Eddery completed a double when Crossways survived a stewards' inquiry for possible interference in the Hambleton Stakes. Bruce Hobbs gave Eva, Lady Rosbery, a tonic when Geoffrey Baxter drove Gay Lemur to a narrow victory over Whisky Talk in the Glasgow Stakes. This was the third year running that Hobbs has won this particular race.



Handstand (left) comes through to win the Scarborough Stakes from Knoxville

Murray booked

John Dunlop, the Arundel trainer, has booked Tony Murray to ride Wassl, who disappointed when well-supported for the 2000 guineas at Newmarket, for the Irish equivalent at the Curragh on Saturday. Another English rider is Bill O'Gorman's Boom Town Charlie (Tony Ives), who misses Newbury's Lockinge Stakes for the race

● An inspection is to be held at 10.00 am today to see if tomorrow's meeting at Beverley can go ahead. A course spokesman said yesterday: "We haven't had any rain for 36 hours, which has helped a lot, but any more rain would put the meeting in doubt."

Prince Spy to find secret of success

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

With Sweet Monday, Vaigly Star, On Stage, Fine Edge and Prince Spy all standing their ground overnight, the Duke of York Stakes should give us an inkling at York this afternoon of what to expect later in the season when the sprint championship reaches its climax.

Although she could boast only one humble victory at Brighton last season, Vaigly Star was not far behind the best. Indeed she would take some holding today if she were in the form that enabled her to finish second to Sharpo in the July Cup and second also to Indian King in the Cork and Orrery Stakes at Royal Ascot.

However, without the benefit of a previous race Vaigly Star could be found wanting and in this instance I prefer Prince Spy, who will revel in the prevailing conditions underfoot. Prince Spy made a deep impression on me at Newmarket when he romped away with a valuable handicap carrying 9st 4lb. Fine Edge, who finished fourth in the same race will be meeting him on only 3lb better terms today and that should not be enough to bridge a five-length gap.

On Stage also impressed me at Newmarket when he won the Palace House Stakes decisively. On that occasion, though, he had all the allowances; This time he must give Prince Spy weight, to make matters worse his trainer, Bill O'Gorman, forgot to declare him to run wearing blinkers. That means that he will be without them for the first time in his career. However, O'Gorman did say yesterday that his oversight should not affect his performance and that he only put blinkers on On Stage in the first place because of his aversion to starting stalls, which seems to have been cured.

Sweet Monday, a mudlark just like his sire, Sweet Revenge, and his grandsire, Compensation, has made a triumphant comeback this spring after two seasons in the wilderness. He was runner up to Jester in this same race 12 months ago and a place may be the most that his connections can hope for now.

Little Wolf, third to Ardross and Capstan in the Yorkshire Cup a year ago, beaten only a length on that occasion, looks poised to win the coverted trophy this time for Lord Porchester his enthusiastic owner and breeder. A good run in the John Porter Stakes at Newbury where he finished in front of both his stable companion, Broken Rail, and Khairpour pointed to better things.

To picture Little Wolf at his best one only has to look at his run in last season's Jockey Club Cup at Newmarket where he gave the likes of Halsbury, Ore, The Neurologist and Karadar a hiding. In that sort of form Little Wolf will be a tough nut to crack this afternoon.

Mubarak of Kuwait, who ran well up to a point in the Jockey Cup Stakes at Newmarket last month, and Palace Gold, who was runner-up to Simply Great in last year's Dante Stakes, could be dangerous at these weights, but I doubt whether last year's Italian St Leger winner, Crusader Castle, will be up to beating Little Wolf at level weights.

True to form the Norwest Holst Trophy is as open as ever. Travelguard, Salvinia, Larionov and Merely a Secret have all run well enough this season to suggest that a prize like this should be well within their grasp, especially Larionov whose efforts against So True and Shareef Dancer in the Esher Cup was probably better than it looked at the time.

Yet I am content to go along with Salvinia, who won her first race of the season at Newmarket much more easily than the verdict of only half a length might indicate. On a line through the third, Maton, Salvinia has the beating of Travelguard at these weights.

Deportment, trained like Salvinia at Newmarket by Bruce Hobbs, is fancied to give Geoff Baxter another winning ride in the Derwent Sprint. Twelve months ago Paul Kelleway came up with the answer to the Wilkinson Memorial Stakes when Right Dancer scampered home to land quite a coup. This time Louise Moillon is expected to follow in her footsteps, although with Nellie Bly in opposition her path to victory will be far from easy.

High hopes for Rocamadour

The Epsom trainer Arthur Pitt has struck form and, after saddling his second winner in as many days at Brighton yesterday, now has high hopes that his stable star Rocamadour can soon be winning again. The four-year-old performed well without winning in top company last year and was runner-up to Ivano on his seasonal debut at Sandown last month.

Pitt, after seeing Monclare Trophy follow up the Folkestone success of Border Signal yesterday by taking the first division of the Goring Selling Stakes, said: "Rocamadour will run either in the Clive Graham Memorial at Goodwood next Tuesday or a group two race at Baden Baden over one and a quarter miles on May 29. "I want to win a good race with him because I would like to promote him as a stallion, perhaps in South Africa. He's by far the best son of Royal Match who stands at the National Stud in Ireland."

Brian Rouse who rode Monclare Trophy two lenghs clear of Full Brigade, had earlier initiated a double when the accomplished hurdler Janus gained his second victory from three starts on the Flat this season in the Madeira Handicap

BOXING

South Africa bid for Graham

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Herol Graham, the British and Commonwealth light-middleweight champion, has received an offer of £160,000 to box Wilfred Benitez, of Puerto Rico, the former world light-middleweight champion, in Durban in August. The offer was made by Rod Burman, a Durban promoter, through Mike Barrett, who is Graham's agent for overseas bouts. It is an offer that the black Sheffield boxer will find difficult to refuse – it is believed to be roughly eight times his total earning since he turned professional five years ago.

"Herol is thrilled with the idea. It will be his toughest fight. That is why when Burman rang me I asked for a quarter of a million dollars. And Burman said 'No problem'," Mr Barrett said yesterday. The bout will be beamed live to United States.

"Money is the name of the game for professionals and this is an offer Graham can hardly refuse. After all, he is highly rated in the world, and he is on the way up," Mr Barrett said. The London promoter saw no moral dilemma for the talented British boxer. "It's all very well for rich people to have high principles about South Africa. And apart from anything else this is a chance for him to gain recognition and become a name in the United States."



Graham: "thrilled"

But the World Boxing Council to whom the British Boxing Board of Control are affiliated, are totally opposed to sporting contacts with South Africa and if the statements of José Sulaiman, the president of the WBC, are anything to go by, it could ruin Graham's chances of boxing for the world title, and making even bigger money.

Bobby Naidoo, who used to run Graham's affairs before the boxer moved to Mr Barrett, said yesterday that he had had similar offers from Mr Burman, but had turned them down.

Benitez, who won three world titles at three different weights, was one of the finest boxers of the last decade, but as his defeat by Thomas Hearns showed, he is not the same force that knocked out Britain's Maurice Hope. Graham has a better than outside chance of beating the Puerto Rican, just as Kirkland Laing surprised everyone by outpointing the once formidable Roberto Duran.

Hagler bout postponed

Providence, Rhode Island (Reuter) – A knee injury has forced Marvin Hagler, the undisputed world middleweight champion, to postpone his scheduled title defence against fellow-American Wilford Scypion here on Friday.

However, the promoter, Bob Arum, said that the injury was not serious and the bout would probably be rescheduled for May 26 or May 27.

Hagler suffered an inflamed tendon of his left knee, which restricts his movement, after a training run in combat boots on a Cape Cod beach, last week. He is the only boxer holding a world title recognised by both the World Boxing Association (WBA) and the World Boxing Council (WBC).

When the match does take place, there may still be some dispute over its length. Arum said yesterday that he had received a telegram from the WBA santioning a 12-round bout although the fighters had agreed to 15 rounds.

Pat Petronelli, Hagler's trainer, still insisted that the championship take place over 15 rounds.

He signed for 15 rounds, and the WBA approved it so we're legally bound to fight 15 rounds and that's the way it's going to be. It's under contract," he said.

From January 1, 1983, The rival organisation WBC, had decided to reduce championship bouts from 15 rounds to 12 because they wanted to "avoid deaths in the ring through negligence".

The WBC has said that if the bout does take place ofer 15 round, it would continue to recognize Hagler as champion if he won, but would beclare the crown vacant if Scypion won.

Italians loosen E European grip

Varna, Bulgaria (Reuter)– Italy continued to shake Eastern Europe's domination of the European amateur championships by increasing their semi-finalists to four yesterday.

The European super-heavyweight champion, Francesco Damiani, and the light-flyweight, Salvatore Todisco, reached the semi-finals in contrasting style. They joined Antonio Menfredi, a heavyweight, and Luciano Bruno, a welterweight, who reached the semi-finals on Tuesday.

Damiani had a surprisingly easy 5-0 win over Hungary's Olympic bronze medal winner, Istvan Levai. He now faces Peter Stoimenov (Bulgaria), a world championship bronze medal winner, who beat Thomas Classen (West Germany) 5-0.

EQUESTRIANISM

Boysie picks the best time to come right

By Jenny MacArthur

The first major international jumping class at the Royal Windsor Horse Show yesterday was won by Lionel Dunning on Mrs J Elliot's Boysie, an 8-year-old bought from Paul Schockemöhle, the reigning European champion, last September. Michael Whitaker was second in the Modern Alarms International Stakes on is own and S Mahmoud's Amanda and Jeff McVean of Australia, on L R Connell's Award, was third.

Overnight rain had given the organizers of the show some cause for worry but Dunning, when asked about the going, replied: "Nearly perfect" – he was grinning from ear to ear after Boysie's first international win of the season.

Boysie, who Dunning says, is believed to be by Count Albany" – the sire of Dunning's great partner, Jungle Bunny – has only "come right" in the last 10 days. When Dunning went to Shockemöhle to try the horse last summer the German rider said he thought Boysie was a nice horse but it would take a year to make him. He was previously ridden by a German lady in her mid-60s. when Boysie started refusing, he went to Karsten Huck for a short time, who won £2,000 in four weeks on him.

Schockemöhle bought Boysie to sell on, but when his top horse Deister, was involved in a road accident on the way back from the Paris show last year, he decided to hold on to him. But Deister made a good recovery, and Boysie's sale went ahead.

Surprisingly, yesterday's class produced only eight clear rounds out of 56 starters. Two of the problem fences were a large parallel in the middle of the arena and the penultimate fence, a treble. The six Libyan riders invited to complete here did not fare well and appeared outclassed, but their horses have had to do a lot of travelling and they may well improve, given time to settle.

Jean Germany and Caroline Bradley had two each of the eight clears. Miss Germany was the first to go in the timed six-fence jump off on Crown Colour Cue Paints Mandingo, but went out of the running when Mandingo slipped and fell making a tight turn.

Michael Whitaker on Amanda went next, and turned on a sixpence at the exact spot where Mandingo fell. He set the time to beat with a clear round in 41,38 seconds. Miss Bradley had eight faults on Trimoco Rubber Ball, but a clear round on Trimoco Manuel put her into fourth place. Her time of 44.66 seconds was 0.29 of a second behind Jeff McVean on Award. Dunning, the last to go on Boysie, completed a faultless round in 40.20 seconds to claim the first prize.

The Novice Hunters opened the showing classes yesterday morning. They were judged by Anthony Steward and Dick Saunders, who rode Grittar to victory in the 1982 Grand National.

RESULTS: Modern Alarms International Stakes: 1, Boysie (L Dunning) 0 in 40.20 sec; 2, Amanda (M Whitaker) 0 in 41.38; 3, Award (J McVean Australia) 0 in 44.37. Novice Jumping Championship (Walwyn Challenge Trophy): 1, Garnish (M Armstrong) 0; 2, Tetbury (Sergeant Warran) 3 faults; 3 equal Where's There's Smoke (J Ione-Smith) 4 faults; Roscrea Teddy (J Anderson) 4 faults; Emilio (C Bradley) 4 faults. Novice Hunter: 1, C A Holbrook Ltd's Crusader (V Toulson); 2, Endon Riding School's Ballsbridge (D Tatlow); 3, Mr R A Schulz's Double Gold (R Oliver). Trident Small Hunter: 1, Amourthyst (Mrs J Key); 2, Park Royal (R Trigg); 3, King's Cavalier (Mrs G L Wathen).

IN BRIEF

No Boniek for Poland

Juventus have refused to release Zibgniew Boniek for Poland's crucial European Championship match against the Soviet Union on Sunday May 22, three days before the European Cup final in which the Turin club play Hamburg in Athens. Juventus expect to be at full strength as Brio, their centre-half, will have recovered from a groin strain within a few days.

● Charlton Athletic's chief coach, Eddie May, has signed a new two-year contract and has now been appointed assistant manager

● Everton have given free transfers to Billy Wright, their 25-year-old former captain, and Alan Ainscow, the 29-year-old midfield player, who cost them £250,000 when he signed from Birmingham in 1981.

● Chesterfield's Steve Kendal escaped with a one-match suspension when he appeared before an FA Commission in Birmingham yesterday for exceeding 41 disciplinary points. He will miss the home match against Millwall on Saturday – his third suspension this season – and has already been banned for the first game of next season as punishment for being sent off at Wrexham on May 2.

ICE HOCKEY: Dundee Rockets have been drawn against the Danish champions, Rodovre of Bronshej, in the first round of next season's European Cup

SPORTING SALE

Wisdens make £3,000

A run of *Wisden Crickters' Almanacks* from 1879 to 1982 realized the top price of £3,000 (estimate £2,500-£3,500) at a sale of cricketana and sporting items held by Phillips in London yesterday, Marcus Williams writes.

Demand for the early years of the almanack, which was first published in 1864, remined strong, with £520 £540 paid respectively for the 1865 and 1867 editions (est £200-£300).

Among the pictures a mounted photograph of the 1868 Australian Aborigine team–the often forgotten forerunners of all touring teams to England–sold for £200 (est £100-£150), and a set of lithographs by John Corbett Anderson of four Lillywhites, William, Frederick, James and John, fetched £400 (est £200-£300).

A late nineteenth century simulated bronze plaster cast figure of W. G. Grace batting reached the upper estimate of £300 and a Parian ware figure of a young cricketer holding a bat brought £360 (est £150-£250).

Of the other sports, a set of 10 framed prints of Crombie's "The Rules of Golf" went for £220 (est £150-£250-; *Fifty Years of Lawn Tennis in the United States*, published in 1931, realized £120 (est £10-£20); and a boxing belt with decorated silver plaque and gilt ovals fetched £380 (est £200-£300).

York

Draw advantage: low numbers best

Tote double 3.10, 4.15. Treble 2.35, 3.40, 4.45

[Television (ITV) 2.35, 3.10 and 3.40 races]

2.0 WILKINSON STAKES (2-y-o fillies: £3,036: 5f) (5 runners)

102 41 NELLIE BLY (D,B) (Mrs R Hutchison) M H Easterby 8-13 ... M Birch 4
103 1 OYSTON'S SPECIAL (D) (R Oyston) J Berry 8-13 ... K Darley 3
104 1 TACHEO (D) (C Tatteson) W Wharton 8-13 ... – 2
108 LOUISE MOILLON (D Wildenstein) P Kelleway 8-8 ... E Hide 1
109 SMOKEY LIN (M Swarzman) A Jarvis 8-8 ... L Piggott 5

13-8 Oyston's Special, 2 Nellie Bly, 5 Smokey Lin, 7 Tacheo, 10 Louise Moillon.

2.35 DUKE OF YORK STAKES (Group III: £18,050: 6f) (11)

201 04040-0 COME ON THE BLUES (D) (Mrs C Pateras) C Brittain 4-9-0 ... P Robinson 10
202 00300-0 GABITAT (D,B) (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 5-9-0 ... Pat Eddery 5
203 1000-11 SWEET MONDAY (D) (J Redlern) L Holt 5-9-0 ... P Waldron 11
204 1101-10 VORVADOS (D) (Miss F Gellichan) M Haynes 6-9-0 ... L Piggott 2
205 00-3340 WINTER WIND (D) (M McDonnell) W O'Gorman 7-9-0 ... B Raymond 4
206 10300-2 HELLO CUDDLES (M Seymour) R Hollinshead 4-8-11 ... S Perks 8
207 230142- VAIGLY STAR (D) (T Sellier) M Stoute 4-8-11 ... W R Swinburn 1
209 1231-11 ON STAGE (D) (A Foustok) W O'Gorman 3-8-5 ... T Ives 9
210 110-4- FINE EDGE (K Abdulla) J Tree 3-8-1 ... W Newnes 7
212 4111-31 PRINCE SPY (D) (S Powell) J Sutcliffe 3-8-1 ... W Carson 3
213 10143-0 TOP O'THE NORTH (D) (P Cameron) M W Easterby 3-8-1 ... K Hodgson 6

5-2 On Stage, 3 Sweet Monday, 9-2 Prince Spy, 6 Fine Edge, 8 Vorvados, 10 Top O'The North, 12 Winter Wind, 16 others.

FORM: Sweet Monday (9-12) won 4l from Toast Of The Town (rec 13lb) 8 ran. Newmarket 6f stks good to soft Apr 13. Vorados (9-11) 7th beaten 5½l to Master Cawston (rec 21lb) 14 ran. Newmarket 6f h'cap good Apr 28. On Stage (7-12) won 2½l from Fearless Lad (gave 23lb) with Winter Wind (gave 12lb) 7th beaten 8l, 17 ran. Newmarket 6f h'cap good to soft Apr 29. Vaigly Star (8-5) 2nd beaten ½l to Ferryman (level) 11 ran. Newmarket 5f stks good to soft Oct 2.
SELECTION: Fine Edge.

3.10 NORWEST HOLST HANDICAP (3-y-o: £10,774: 7f) (10)

301 3311-2 TRAVELGUARD (D) (I Sykes) J W Watts 9-7 ... E Hide 1
304 3030-31 HAWKLEY (D Rigby) K Brassey 9-1 ... B Crossley 10
305 3-11210 SOLIMILE (B) (L Norris) P Kelleway 8-13 ... L Piggott 5
306 01-1 SALVINIA (D) (Marquesa de Moratalla) B Hobbs 8-12 ... G Baxter 9
307 0010-22 LARIONOV (Mrs P Rosedale) J Winter 8-9 ... B Taylor 6
308 422310- ZAHEENDAR (D) (H H Aga Khan) M Stoute 8-8 ... W R Swinburn 4
311 0000-20 SWINGIN' COWBOY (B) (Mrs S Brook) S Norton 8-2 ... J Lowe 2
312 004-412 ASSADAA (B) (H Al-Maktoum) Thomson Jones 8-2 ... P Cook 8
313 30-02 SWING TO ME (Capt M Lemos) C Brittain 7-7 ... P Robinson 3
314 1024-31 MERELY A SECRET (D) (C Karpidas) P Walwyn 7-7 ... S Dawson 5 7

11-4 Solimile, 7-2 Salvinia, 9-2 Travelguard, 13-2 Larionov, 8 Assadaa, 10 Hawkley, Merely A Secret, 14 others.

FORM: Travelguard (9-4) 2nd beaten ½l to Bid Again (gave 31lb) 12 ran. Newmarket 7f h'cap good Apr 30. Hawkley (8-13) won 2½l from Mandelstan (gave 44lb) 10 ran. Newbury 1m h'cap soft Apr 15. Solimile (9-0) 8th beaten 7l to Ma Biche (level) 18 ran. Newmarket 1m stks 1000 gns good Apr 28. Salvinia (8-10) won ½l from One O'clock Jump (rec 4lb) 11 ran. Newmarket 7f h'cap good to soft Apr 12. Larionov (9-3) 3rd beaten 5l to So True (rec 1lb) 11 ran. Sandown 1m h'cap heavy Apr 23. Merely A Secret (7-12) won sh hd from Tropical Red (level) 8 ran. Salisbury 1m h'cap soft May 5.
SELECTION: Travelguard.

3.40 YORKSHIRE CUP (Group II: £20,796: 1m 6f) (10)

401 22010-1 CRUSADER CASTLE (D) (P Mellon) I Balding 4-8-12 ... Pat Eddery 5
402 31210-2 LITTLE WOLF (Ld Porchester) W Hern 5-8-12 ... W Carson 4
404 4-20 HENRICUS (Count C Sellern) J Hindley 4-8-10 ... B Taylor 2
405 2/110-0 BROKEN RAIL (CD) (T Egerton) W Hern 4-8-7 ... J Mercer 10
406 14013-0 HOLD TIGHT (D,B) (F Lafferty Builders) R Whitaker 4-8-7 ... S Perks 1
407 01101-0 KHAIRPOUR (C) (H H Aga Khan) R Houghton 4-8-7 ... J Reid 8
408 11010-0 MUBARAK OF KUWAIT (Sheikh Fahad) G Harwood 4-8-7 ... G Starkey 3
409 204200- PALACE GOLD (Mrs P Yong) W O'Gorman 4-8-7 ... T Ives 9
411 23123-1 TOP CREATOR (D) (Sir E Hardeon) B Hills 4-8-7 ... S Cauthen 7
413 122210- LINE SLINGER (D) (N Hetherton) W Elsey 4-8-4 ... E Hide 6

9-4 Little Wolf, 7-2 Khairpour, 9-2 Broken Rail, 6 Crusader Castle, 7 Top Creator, 8 Palace Gold, 12 Mubarak Of Kuwait, 20 others.

FORM: Crusader Castle (9-7) won 2½l, from Henricus (level) 5 ran, Pontefract 2m 1f stks good to soft Apr 8. Little Wolf (9-0) 2nd beaten 3l to Daimond Shoal (rec 8lb) with Khairpour (rec 8lb) 5th beaten 5½l and Broken Rail (rec 8lb) 6th beaten 11½l, 8 ran, Newbury 1m 4f stks good to soft Apr 16. Mubarak Of Kuwait (level) 8th beaten over 10l to Electric, 11 ran. Newmarket 1m 4f stks good to soft Apr 29. Top Creator (9-1) won 12l from Red Fields (rec 7lb) 8 ran. Newmarket 1m h'cap good to soft Apr 12.
SELECTION: Little Wolf.

4.15 MICKLEGATE HANDICAP (£3,319: 1m 4f) (14)

502 /0212-4 BREVET (Ld H de Walden) P Walwyn 4-9-9 ... J Mercer 2
503 31130-3 JUPITER ISLAND (D) (S Threadwell) C Brittain 4-9-0 ... P Robinson 8
504 013220- PATH OF PEACE (D) (Miss L Gold) C Thornton 7-8-12 ... J Bleasdale 6
507 02320-3 KEELBY KAVALIER (CD) (Mrs J Durrant) J Etherington 5-8-9 ... J Seagrave 12
508 120330- PRINCE SANTIAGO (R Baker) Denys Smith 4-8-5 ... M Fry 5 13
509 334-113 PERCASE (D) (Lady Dumphie) I Balding 4-8-4 ... Pat Eddery 14
510 30-3110 RIDGEFIELD (R Doughty) D Thom 5-8-3 ... – 7
511 211300- SKI RUN (D) (P Wigham) P Wigham 8-8-1 ... M Wigham 10
514 00310-3 MISS DIAWARD (D) (Mrs M Grant) Miss S Hall 6-7-12 ... – 9
515 42140-0 BROKEN SEAL (C) (M Ellis) C Gray 4-7-11 ... N Connorton 3 3
516 00300-0 BLAKEY BANK (I Blakey Haulage) Hbt Jones 4-7-8 ... L Charnock 5
517 0000-31 CORDUROY (CD) (A Westmarland) D Nicholson 7-7-7 ... D McKay 11
519 20030-4 HAGEN QUEEN (B Chambers) C Crossley 4-7-7 ... – 4
520 00000-0 PARKDALE (Mrs N Nuttall) J FitzGerald 5-7-7 ... – 1

7-2 Percase, 4 Corduroy, 5 Ridgefield, 11-2 Path Of Peace, 9 Miss Diaward, 10 Keelby Kavalier, 12 Jupiter Island, 16 Brevet, 25 others.

4.45 DERWENT HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,036: 6f) (8)

601 1213-0 COQUITO'S FRIEND (D) (A Alvarado) B Hanbury 9-7 ... B Raymond 1
602 11000-1 DEPORTMENT (Mrs J Walker jun) B Hobbs 8-12 ... G Baxter 2
603 410-030 DEPUTY HEAD (P Callard) L Holt 8-4 ... P Waldron 5
604 34000-2 BELINDA BROWN (P Jones) T Barron 8-3 ... E Hide 4
605 041-0 SILLAGER (Mrs E Rhind) M W Easterby 8-0 ... W Carson 3
606 1124- MEDAALA (G Steed) K Stone 7-12 ... J Lowe 7
608 10420-3 FRIENDLY BOBBY (T Heathcote) T Fairhurst 7-7 ... W Ryan 7 8
610 0-24 RETURN MATCH (B) (B Cooper) J W Watts 7-7 ... R Hills 3 6

9-4 Deportment, 3 Coquito's Friend, 7-2 Belinda Brown, 6 Sillager, 8 Friendly Bobby, 12 Deputy Head, 16 others.

York selections

By Michael Phillips
2.0 Louise Moillon. 2.35 Prince Spy. 3.10 Salvinia. 3.40 Little Wolf. 4.15 Keelby Kavalier. 4.45 Deportment.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.0 Louise Moillon. 2.35 On Stage. 3.10 Salvinia. 3.40 Henricus. 4.15 Ridgefield. 4.45 Depprtment.

CORONATION CUP: First acceptors: All Along, Awaasif, Balitou, Be My Native, Bevel, Cadoudal, Centroline, Coquelin, Dacel, Diamond Shoal, Eastern Sun, Electric, Half Iced, Ideal POint, Ivano, Jalmood, Lafontaine, Lemhi Gold, Mulaz Palace, Mr Sir Avon, Norwick, Old Country, Peacetime, Praima Voce, Rocamadour, Say Primula, Simply Great, Time Charter, Welsh Term. To be run over 1½m at Epsom, June 2.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: York: 2.0 Nellie Bly. 4.45 Return Match.

STATE OF GOING (official): York: soft; Ludlow: good to soft; Uttoxeter: good to soft. Tomorrow: Newmarket: good to soft; Beverley: heavy (inspection 10 am today); Newcastle: heavy; Newbury: soft; Taunton: heavy.

York results

Going: Soft.

2.0 (2.1) SCARBOROUGH STAKES (2-y-o: c & g: £3,407: 5f)
BANDSTAND ch c by Thatching – Moorland Chant (Mrs M Haggas) 9-0 ... E Hide (16-1) 1
Knoxville b c by Pitskelly – Cariola (A Shead) 9-0 ... S Cauthen (3-1 Jt Fav) 2
Nemwell ch c by Ahonoora – Sea Swallow (J Fisher) 9-0 ... P Robinson (3-1 Jt Fav) 3
Also Ran: 7-2 Zarkos (5th), 10 Record Harvest (4th), 11 Fleet Builder, 12 Boys in Blue, 16 Lochfen, 25 Ballycrackers, Captain Vigilante, Fine Recovery, 33 Catching (6th), Courting Season, Silver Prospect. 14 ran.
TOTE: Win: £14.90. Places: £3.30, £1.80, £1.90. DF: £50.20. CSF: £63.46. J W Watts at Richmond. Sh hd, 3/4l. 1m 3.74sec. NR: Allen Limited.

2.35 (2.36) TATTERSALL'S YORKSHIRE STAKES £5,000 added (2-y-o: £3,772: 5f)
CLANTIME ch c by Music Boy – Penny Pincher (Clantime Ltd) 9-4 ... G Duffield (5-2) 1
Lak Lustre b c by Mandamus – Slinky (L Sloan) 9-4 ... E Hide (5-4 Fav) 2
Deary River br c by Irish River – Duboff (P Goulandris) 9-1 ... W Newnes (5-1) 3
Also Ran: 15-2 Bold Realm (6th), 25 Philstar (4th), 28 Triad Treble (5th). 6 ran.
TOTE: Win: £3.00. Places: £1.70, £1.90. DF: £2.00. CSF: £5.44. J Berry at Cockerham. Sh hd, 4l. 1m 4sec.

Also Ran: 7 The Noble Player (4th), 10 Welsh Idol, 22 Ice Patrol (5th), 50 Jackdaw (6th), 100 Cast a Shadow, Spigot Shaft. 9 ran.
TOTE: Win: £8.70. Places: £1.30, £2.80, £1.00. DF: £65.30. CSF: £165.63. G Wragg at Newmarket. 1½l, 10l. 2m 19.11 sec.

3.40 (3.44) HAMBLETON HANDICAP £8,465: 1m)
CROSSWAYS b c by Habitat-Silky (E Moller) 4-9-3 ... P Eddery (4-1 jt fav) 1
Felthorpe Mariner b c by Be My Guest–Sea Horse (P Mills) 4-8-9 ... G Baxter (9-1) 2
Murillo b g by Windjammer-Fulesog (W Cowell) 7-9-2 ... K Darley (8-1) 3
Also Ran: 4-1 jt fav Mighty Fly (4th), 6 Silver Season (5th), 13-2 Jester, 15-2 O I Oyston (6th), 16 Ring Bidder, 20 Hay Habit, 25 Foolish Ways. 10 ran.
TOTE: Win: £4.80. Places: £1.80, £2.80, £2.60. DF: £25.80. CSF: £35.32. Tricast £247.02. G Wragg at Newmarket. Nk, 1l. 1m 43.20s.

4.15 (4.17 GLASGOW STAKES (3-y-o: c & g: £4,500: 1m 2f 110yds)
GAY LEMUR b c, by Lord Gayle – Coming of Age (Eva, Lady Roseberry) 8-10 ... G Baxter (5-1) 1
Whisky Talk b or br c, by Wolverlife – Little Hills (G Strawbridge) 9-3 ... P Eddery (9-4 fav) 2
Soldier Ant ch c by Brigadier Gerard – Hants (A Richards) 8-10 ... L Piggott (3-1) 3
Also Ran: Majestic Endeavour (6th), 8 Glidoran (5th), 50 Henry Geary Steels, Stargaze (4th), 7 ran
TOTE: Win: £6.60. Places: £2.20, £1.60. DF: £8.00. CSF: £15.39. B Hobbs at Newmarket. ½l, 2l. 2m 19.62s.

Also Ran: 100-30 jt fav Northern Script (5th), 6 Journey Home, 8 For Your Eyes (6th) 17-2 Holloway Wonder, 12 Fair Madame, 14 Dragonlea (4th), 20 Stephalotus. 11 ran.
TOTE: Win: £6.20. Places: £2.00, £3.10, £1.40. DF: £48.00. CSF: £83.60. Tricast £219.52, C Brittain at Newmarket. 1½ l, 3l. 1m 43.88s NR New Coins. TOTE DOUBLE: Hot Touch and Gay Lemur, £57.10. TREBLE: Clantime, Crossways and Galaitzky £27.20. JACKPOT: Not won. PLACEPOT: £10.55

[illegible]

Brighton

Going: soft

1.45 (1.48) DITCHLING STAKES (2-y-o: £1,658: 5f)
REDHOUSE CHARM ch c by Swing Easy– Off The Mark (R Bishop & Son Ltd) 8-11 ... G Ramshaw (16-1) 1
Meadows Lad ... B Crossley (4-9 fav) 2
Classical Vintage ... P Cook (5-2) 3
TOTE: Win: £17.50. Places: £2.70, £1.00, £1.00. DF: £8.70. CSF: £23.31. R Smyth at Epsom. 3l, hd. Peanday (50-1) 4th 8 ran.

2.15 (2.21) MARINA STAKES (3-y-o: £2,052: 1¼m)
TOM OKKER, b c by Tom Rolfe – Grass Court (Studcrown Ltd 9-6 W Carson (4-11) 1
Lady Gerard ... J Reid (10-1) 2
Pearl Thyme ... P Hamblett (20-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.30. Places: £1.00, £1.90, £2.80. DF: £2.50. CSF: £4.37. L Cumani at Newmarket. 10l, ½l. Arrowood Junction (20-1) 4th. 14 ran. NR: Expeditions.

2.45 (2.52) MADEIRA HANDICAP £2,508: 1¼m
JANUS, ro g by Ragstone– January (K Little) 5-8-4 ... Rouse (2-1 fav) 1
Widd ... R Still (16-1) 2
Castle ... A McGlone (7-2) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.30. Places: £1.50, £1.50, £1.80. DF: £8.00. CSF: £28.95. Tricast: £95.20. Mrs N Smith at Chichester. Hd, 5l. Bunce Boy (7-2) 4th. 9 ran. NR: Weavers' Pin, Swinging Moon.

3.15 (3.18) GORING SELLING STAKES (Div I: £862: 1m)
MONCLARE TROPHY ch c by Sanford Lad – Blue Warbler (Monclare Ltd) 4-9-9 ... B Rouse (2-1) 1
Full Brigade ... L Jones (16-1) 2
Comtina ... P Waldron (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.70. Places: £1.50, £4.10, £5.50. DF: £85.80. CSF: £31.41. A Pitt at Epsom. 2l, hd. Allured (13-8 fav) 4th 11 ran.

3.45 (3.49) BRIGHTON SPRING HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,859: 6f)
BOLD AND WOOLLY br c by Kashmir II – Tarakanova (S Wong) 9-7 ... P Young (13-2) 1
Oryx Minor ... M Wigham (25-1) 2
Tarila ... D Ramage (15-2) 3
TOTE: Win: £6.60. Places: £1.80, £7.40, £3.00. DF: £87.60. CSF: £159.29. Tricast: £1,148.84. B Hanbury at Newmarket. ½l, 3l. Hip Hip Hip 5-2 fav. Loving Doll (20-1) 4th 18. ran.

4.15 (4.19) ALDRINGTON HANDICAP (£1,758: 7f)
KORYPHEOS b g by He Loves Me– Silly Song (C Papaloinnou) 4-8-11 ... R McGhin (8-1) 1
Bond Dealer ... G Dickie (8-1) 2
Tin Boy ... J Matthias (7-2 fav) 3
TOTE: Win: £16.60. Places: £3.10, £1.50, £1.10. DF: £35.40. CSF: £52.24. Tricast: £161.16. P Mitchell at Epsom. ½l, ½l. Rawlinson End (11-2) 4th. 18 ran.

4.45 (4.47) GORING STAKES (selling: £860: 1m)
JUMP JAR b g by Lochnager – Light Jumper (D Chapman) 4-9-9 ... D Nicholls (11-8 fav) 1
Sovereign Paul ... D Dineley (7-2) 2
Stately Maiden ... M Miller (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.60. Places: £1.00, £2.30, £2.20. DF: 10.70. CSF: £7.68. D Chapman at York. 2l, 2½l. Sound And Happy (8-1) 4th. 9 ran.

PLACEPOT: £6.70.

Ludlow

[illegible]

Uttoxeter

[illegible]

Britain's best prospect ends her low profile days

The secret marathon runner blows her cover and takes off

As British athletics ponders the *disturbing probability of her leading* contender at the women's first world marathon championship having a mile left to run by the time the winner finishes, waiting in reserve is a girl whose most notable sports achievements until last month were down the wing of a hockey field.

Sarah Rowell, aged 20, is now a former hockey player. She convinced *herself* last month that she should retire from the game when she became the best woman marathon prospect Britain has yet produced.

It was not a decision taken lightly. She was an East of England under-22 attacker and a member of the 1981 national under-18 squad. She won a place at Chelsea College of P.E., Eastbourne, primarily on the strength of her hockey. But matches every weekend have been getting in the way of running, and the sixth fastest British woman of all time now wants nothing to obstruct her path to international recongnition.

Her age alone would have been reason enough to predict an outstanding future after her improvement of 15 minutes on her best in the London Marathon. The fact that she became a Women's AAA bronze medal winner after an athletics career of only eight races, had received no qualified coaching and had never been heard of by most, if not all 12, members of the national squad, suggests that her time of 2hr 39min 11sec will not be her best for long.

Apart from two other marathons, in *which she took almost three hours, and* various insignificant road and cross country races, Miss Rowell has kept the kind of hidden profile that is normally the style of Kenyans and Ethiopians. It was as *much of a surprise to* Dartford Harriers as it was to women's distance running in general to learn that the girl who had become a member by telephone seven months earlier was how faster than all but Smith, Gould, *Binns*, Penny and *Horovitz*, among British women.

Most Dartford Harriers had never set eyes on her, few had ever encountered her name and when she made her first appearance at club headquarters two days after London, she was late, because she had no idea where Dartford was and got utterly lost. She possessed neither club vest nor that trademark of all ambitious marathon runners, the stopwatch strapped to her wrist.

While Joyce Smith, aged 45, Glynis Penny, 32, and Kathryn Binns, 25, will wear Britain's colours in Helsinki in August, their probable successor is introducing herself to training advice, diet and selective race programmes in an attempt to close the widening gap between British and world standards.

Neither Mrs Smith nor Mrs Penny, both mothers, can be expected to finish around the 2hr 25min mark which will be necessary for Olympic, European or world championship victories. Much depends on fresh young blood, and marathon runners do not come much fresher or younger than Miss Rowell.

She has been asked to represent her country before winning colours for her county, although she may decline the British Amateur Athletic Board's invitation to compete in the women's marathon at the European Cup in Loredo, Spain, on June 19. Miss Rowell is hoping that her event will be included in the World Student Games in Edmonton this summer and would prefer to race there.

She is pacing herself for impact on the Olympic Games next year; by then she may be ready: "I have underestimated the value of racing – I must get more racing experience and do more speedwork. If I can run that time on a year's serious training, most of it hit and miss, then with a coach, I may prove I am the girl of the future".

Cliff Temple, who advises Mike Gratton, the London Marathon winner, has agreed to refine her 95 miles a week training schedule. "What makes Sarah so remarkable," Temple says, "is that she was *right here under our noses and we* didn't know about her".



Rowell: girl who can go a long way.

Temple may not have known her, but she knew of him through his work as an athletic author: "Because I was so new I read everything I could. Every time a marathon book came out I read it – anything that was going because I had no idea what I was supposed to be doing".

Temple, her coach since May 1 has begun to delete the errors in her routine: "I was horrified to hear how much training she was doing so close to the London Marathon – 85 miles the week before. She won't do that again. What she will be doing, though, is more interval training".

The average age of the national squad, which Miss Rowell joined for training for the first time last weekend, is 33. The world's fastest marathons are being *recorded by women who are considerably* younger. Joan Benoit (United States), Allison Roe (New Zealand) and Grete Waitz (Norway) are all in their twenties with the American, most impressive of them all, the youngest of the three at 25.

"A year ago the only marathon runners I had ever heard of were Joyce Smith, Allison Row and Grete Waitz", Miss Rowell recalls. "What I notice most now is *that the age is coming down*".

She remembers vividly her first step from obscurity: her lonely wait in the women's rest tent before the start at London. "I got there early and it was *empty. I was sitting on the table and the* next person to walk in was Grete Waitz. I remember thinking 'this is going up in the world – just me and this legendary figure'. It would be nice if one day the roles were *reversed*".

David Powell

GOLF

Distance and course suit Scot

By John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent

The British professional golf season is launched today from a multiple springboard provided by *four exciting tournaments* at various points to the south. From those events four winners emerged in the most laudable of circumstances, and all four – Mark James, Sandy Lyle, Bernhard Langer and Nick Faldo – are in the field for the Martini International at Wilmslow from today until Sunday.

James got down in three from what seemed an impossible position well over the last green to win in Tunisia, with the two Gordon Brands providing a fascinating subplot in hot pursuit. Then Lyle deprived Ballesteros of his Madrid title with a superb final round of 70 *in appalling conditions, with, again,* the Yorkshire Gordon Brand ("Brand X") maintaining his fairytale comeback in second place.

Next, Langer achieved two successive eagles in the closing holes of the Italian Open to get into the play-off and see off Ballesteros and Brown in the sudden-death. Finally, Faldo, summoned hotfoot from the United States to Paris to take the place of the ailing Norman, performed similar heroics to rattle home an eagle putt at the 18th, followed by three successive birdies in the play-off.

This is the stuff of which sporting legends are made and, with so many buoyant spirits around and a Ryder Cup place to provide an added spur,



Gallacher: two claims

there should be no reason why the excitement should not continue. Not only will the Brands continue to carry a special interest, and perhaps a special talent, for all their disparate backgrounds and experi*ences, but a determined* little Scot is also likely to put his oar in the turbulent waters.

He is Bernard Gallacher, who has two claims to attention. Not only did he win the Martini last year, at Lindrick, but he also won the Greater Manchester Open at Wilmslow when it was last held, two years ago. He is in the position of a fancied racehorse who has won over the distance and the course.

Wilmslow has taken a pounding from the weather (but which course has not?) and players were allowed to use preferred lies in yesterday's pro-am. There was little rain, however, and with another cut of the fairways it was hoped that normal conditions would obtain today. It is not a long-hitters' course, since the par is only 70, with two par fives, both before the turn. Gallacher, a man of finesse rather than force, was able to bring in a final card two years ago at 16 under *par for the tournament.*

A Ryder Cup place beckons for the first 12 in the money list at the appropriate time. At the moment Langer, with £12,213, leads marginally from James, £12,060, followed by "Brand X" with £10,636, Ballesteros with £10,509, Lyle with £10,029, Faldo with £8,624 from only one outing. On a rough projection, £30,000 seems the *minimum requirement. Ballesteros* will not be playing this week.

Britain's deputy

Elsie Brown, of Llandudno (Maesdu) Golf Club, will be deputy captain of the Great Britain team for the women's Commonwealth tour*nament and* also the Great Britain and Ireland side for the Vagliano Trophy.

CYCLING

Mystery Tour of Italy

From John Wilcockson, Brescia

There is no clear favourite for the sixty-sixth Tour of Italy which *begins today when 162* riders tackle an individual time-trial of eight kilometres through the medieval streets of Brescia. But Tommy Prim, of Sweden, has found the form which has twice seen him finish as runner-up.

Giuseppe Saronni, the world champion, is eager to win his national tour for a second time. Also looking for a second victory in this 4,000 kilometre race is the 1981 winner, Giovanni Battaglin, who showed last week in the Tour de Romandie that he is returning to top form.

Battaglin is a climber, but his ability will be crucial on only three of the 22 stages: stage six, next Wednesday, which finishes in Campitello Matese, 4,685 feet up in the southern Apennines; stage 17, on May 30, another mountaintop finish at the *Colle San Fermo*; and, two days from the finish, in Udine, when five passes in the Dolomites have to be crossed in the 169 kilometres of stage 20.

Also hoping to exploit the more hilly terrain are Marino Lejarreta, who ran Bernard Hinault close in the recent Tour of Spain, his Spanish rival, Alberto Fernandez, who was third in Spain; and the perennial Belgian, Lucien Van Impe, the winner of the King of the Mountains title in the 1982 Tour of Italy. Hinault has decided not to compete this year.

Another near-veteran hoping for *a first success is Francesco Moser.* He should play a significant part in the first two weeks when two individuals and one team time-trial give him the chance to win the race leadership.

Graham Jones, the *French-based* Mancunian, rides the Italian Tour for the first time, but he is short of competitive miles after breaking a finger last week. His role will be to support the main French hope, Jean-René Bernaudeau.

Another English speaker, Michael Wilson, a hardy Tasmanian, rides for the second time. He won a stage in last year's Tour and he found form in the Tour of Spain last week. He won the final stage on Sunday after a spectacular breakaway in Madrid.

MODERN PENTATHLON

Sex story could affect morale

Under the strain of a recent controversial press interview given by one of them, the women's senior team left for France yesterday for their first contest of the season, at Beauvais.

Sarah Parker, Katherine Tayler and Teresa Purton, are there from last year's world championship team and Victoria Sowerby makes up the four. Missing from the team is Wendy Norman, the world *champion, who has been in Texas* all winter studying sport. She will return to Britain shortly.

Since Miss Parker took the world silver last year and Miss Taylor the bronze and an injury reuced the *highly-talented* Miss *Purton* to a limp, the competition to stay in the yeam is going to be intense.

What is adding to the tension is that Miss Tayler agreed to an interview with a Sunday newspaper which thought the sexual behaviour of top sports people before competition worthy of examination.

Harsh words have been exchanged and fears raised over the morale of the British women's team.

The modern Pentathlon Association's genrral and finance committee heard Miss Tayler's side of *the story on Tuesday night and* decided to close ranks for the sake of unity. Her mother, Eileen, who is women's team manager, was present and has taken the team to Beauvais.

With this year's world champion*ship* at *Gothenburg* nearly four months away, from just now is not of paramount impotance, but the performance of Victoria Sowerby in such company will be watched closely.

YACHTING: Richard Broadhead, sailing the 52-ft Perseverence of Medina, the only British entry left in *the* single-handed round-the-world race, sponsored by BOC, was still more than 260-miles from the Newport finishing line yesterday after battling against light head-winds during the previous 24 hours, *he is not now expected to arrive* until tomorrow, Barry Pickthall writes.

Broadhead, who rescued the French sailor Jacques de Roux from his sinking yacht in the southern ocean during *the third stage between* Sydney and Rio de Janeiro, is currently in third place overall

RUGBY LEAGUE

Hull team unchanged

By Keith Macklin

Despite the disapointment of defeat in last Saturday's Challenge Cup Final, Arthur Bunting, manager of Hull, has named an unchanged squad for Saturday's premiership final against Widnes at Headingley.

Bunting has decided to make no scapegoats, and he also expects Kevin Harkin, the scrum half, to have recovered from the concussion which put him out of action for most of Saturday's final. Ironically, Bunting himslf was yesterday ill in bed with influenza as he named an unchanged squad to include a team of thirteen and two substitutes.

HULL: G Kemble; D O'Hara, S Evans, J Leuluai, P Prendiville, D Topliss, (captain), K Harkin, T Skerrett, K Bridges, C Stone, L Crooks, P Rose, S Norton. Substitutes: T Day, M Crane.

Widnes are hoping to choose from a full strength squad, with Kevin Tamabi, their New Zealand prop forward, willing *to* play with pain-killing injections in his injured hand.

David Barends, the black South African winger, who plays for Bradford Northern, has suggested a summer tour of South Africa by a mixed nationality Rugby League party.

HOCKEY

The final pay-off

By Sydney Friskin

RAPC (Worthy Down) 1
2nd Field Regiment RA 0

The Royal Army Pay Corps Worthy Down brought the British Army Cup back to the United Kingdom by defeating the 2nd Field Regiment Royal Artillery in the final at Aldershot yesterday. The 45th Field Regiment had taken this trophy back to the Rhine last year.

This was the fourth success by the RAPC and they had to work hard yesterday to achieve it. They took command of the first 20 minutes, but the Gunners' tightly organised defence, in which Brindle was outstanding, prevented further scoring. The match was won and lost in the 18th minute when Rutherford scored after a brief tussle which followed a short corner.

Unfortunately for the Field *Regiment they had little to show* up front. Except for two short corners in the first half, which they failed to control, they did not offer much of a threat. In the first minute of the second half, however, a quick surge through the middle ended in a well-hit shot by Wollocombe just missing the mark.

The RAPC were well served in attack by Hardwick, Rutherford and Rodgers, all of whom play for the Army side in the United Kingdom. Hardwick, who looked the most dangerous of this trio, later found the path to goal blocked by a determined RA defence.

The United Kingdom champions had a couple of chances to increase their lead in the second half. One was offered to Gunn, a substitute, who should have scored the first time he touched the ball but the goalkeeper's obtrusive pads were in the way.

RAPC WORTHY DOWN: S/Sgt D Tolhurst, Sgt C B Peach, Capt G Horsman, Sgt R Lewis, WO II D Rutherford, Maj P Kilburn, Capt T Cross, S/Sgt F Rodgers (capt), S/Sgt P Humphries (Sub, WO II E Gunn), Sgt G Hardwick, Maj S Moralee.
2ND FR RA: S/Sgt W C Connilly, Maj A Roynon (capt), Lt C Brundle, Capt A Horridge, Sgt W Heelan, Sgt T K Hogben, Capt P R Berendt (Sub, Bdr P Bowen), L/Bdr A D Chauhan, Lt J B Wollocombe, Lt M P Banham, WO II R G Williams.
Umpires: L/Col G M Gadd and Lt Col J B Stoxham.

Cue for Davis

The world professional snooker champion Steve Davis will play in the British pro-am golf team to meet Australia for thr Chef and Brewer Trophy at Moor Park on July 18.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

CRICKET
(11.00-6.30 unless stated)
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP
CHESTERFIELD: Derbyshire v Lancashire
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Kent
GLOUCESTER: Gloucestershire v Sussex
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Warwickshire
LORD'S: Middlesex v Yorkshire
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Nottinghamshire
THE OVAL: Surrey v Leicestershire
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Somerset (11.00-7.00)
Other Matches
FENNER'S: Cambridge University v MCC (11.30-6.30)
THE PARKS: Oxford University v Glamorgan (11.30-6.30)
Second XI Championship:
BURTON: Derbyshire v Northamptonshire
ENFIELD CC: Middlesex v Essex
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Glamorgan
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Warwickshire
TAUNTON: Somerset v Hampshire
EASTBOURNE: Sussex v Kent
HARROGATE: Yorkshire v Surrey

FOOTBALL
(Kick-off 7.30 unless stated)
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Second division: Barton Rovers v Letchworth GC; Hemel Hempstead v Corinthian Casuals.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Crystal Palace v Luton, Fulham v Watford (2.0, at Fisher Athletic ground). Ipswich v Southampton (2.15); Queens Park Rangers v Charlton (2.00).
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Sheffield Wednesday v Coventry. Second division: Derby v Wigan, Middlesbrough v Barnsley, Oldham v Bradford City; Preston North End v Rotherham, Newcastle v Manchester United (all 7.00).

CROQUET
Budleigh Salterton Tournament

TENNIS
Lee-on-Solent Men's Challenger Series

La crème de la crème

Appointments Public

(continued on page 34)

HORIZONS

The Times Guide to careers training

No moves without money

Richard Stokes discusses the problems of moving to a job

Before Mrs Thatcher became Prime Minister, governments of both major parties believed in taking jobs to the people. Regional Development Aid was the most important of several agreed "interventionist" policies. Since 1979 involuntary recruits to the growing army of the unemployed have been exhorted to show initiative by moving in search of jobs – wherever those jobs might be found. How realistic is the mass mobility programme?

For a variety of reasons, the British within the United Kingdom have been a relatively static race. The Department of the Environment *Survey of National Movements, 1978*, confirmed the customary 8 per cent "annual household moves". More than half the families involved, moved less than five miles, and two thirds less than 10 miles. Fewer than one quarter of the removals (1.76 per cent of total households) had anything to do with employment. Even in the present unprecendented recession, the unemployed display a marked reluctance or perhaps, an inability to relocate to find work. As W W Daniel recorded in *The Unemployed Flow* (Stage 1, Interim Report, PSI [1981]) – "People tend to move geographically for work from the security and confidence of employment in order to get better jobs. When without work, people tend to need the psychological support of being among people and places that are familiar. . . . Of those out of work only 12 per cent has applied for jobs that would involve a move."

The main reasons for the reluctance to move were identified in the Report from the Select Committee of the House of Lords on *Unemployment* (Vol 1. – Report, May 1982) as – "Family and locality; education needs; a spouse's job and the minimum security which his or her wages can provide; and very important – housing."

In an impressive and comprehensive research study, organized within the Bartlett School of Architecture and Planning at the University College, London (to be published later this year) Dr. Danuta Jachniak concludes that – "Employers leave their employees to find their own housing solutions, or they look to central and local government to take the initiative in providing housing for mobility".

Those employees in rented accommodation face a near impossible problem. If in private rented property, they are confronted by escalating rents and increasingly scarce tenancies. If in local authority rented accommodation, they encounter widespread resistance to proposed exchange arrangements. To quote Dr Jachniak again – "Local authority exchange initiatives are uncommon. Local authorities are reluctant to allocate scarce housing resources to migrant households at the expense of local residents."

People who are in the process of buying their homes through mortgage are not necessarily more mobile. As the House of Lords Select Committee explained: "For the vast majority of those who consider moving, the only way to put a roof over the family's head is to buy a house. Unfortunately, the jobless can be caught in a vicious circle. Where unemploymennt is high, house prices slump: where jobs are relatively plentiful house prices are relatively high. On top of this the transaction costs of buying and selling houses are notoriously large. Consequently the unemployed often cannot afford to move."

Members of the committee visited Corby. They were shocked at the plight of redundant steel-workers who, having bought houses during prosperity, subsequently became Corby captives as a consequence of plummeting house prices. Indeed some of the workers in the northern industrial towns devastated by unemployment, who took out house mortgages in the period 1976 to 1979, now find that the current value of their property is significantly below the outstanding mortgage debt. To quote a Skelmersdale Agent: "For the first time since the early 1930s, some families are vacating houses on which they have met three, four and five years mortgage payments without leaving a forwarding address."

In many instances house purchase decisions had been based upon a calculation of joint incomes – and a belief that husband and wife would continue in employment. The Department of Health and Social Security paid a massive £140m in mortgage assistance during 1982 (and the figure is bound to rise again in 1983). Such assistance is provided, however, only if the husband is unemployed. The incidence of mortgage default has more than doubled since 1980.

Re-locating for work frequently means contemplating a move from the North or Midlands to the South, especially to the South-east. Privately rented houses in the Greater London area are more likely to be slums. At the last count 90,000 private tenants were living in London houses designated as unfit for human habitation. Even those prepared to buy the cheapest sub-standard property in the Greater London area, need an income of £12,000 to secure a mortgage.

Paradoxically the greatest assistance with moving is provided for the most highly-paid executives. Traditionally at senior management level a readiness to re-locate has been a prerequisite for a progressive career. Companies continue to help a relatively small group of managers and professional staff with removal expenses, legal fees, estate agent fees, disturbance allowances, interest free bridging loans, and frequently capital grants to facilitate the purchase of more expensive property.

For the unemployed and those threatened with redundancy, moving home is not a realistic option. In the words of the House of Lords Select Committee on Unemployment: "We are driven to the conclusion that mobility can only be a minor remedy for unemployment. Most remedies for unemployment must be based on local labour markets and travel-to-work areas. This will conform with what we believe to be the natural inclinations of most workers and will allow planning to take place on the scale that is most likely to produce results".

As yet Dr Jachniak and her research colleagues have not been able to discover any practical mobility plans prepared by the Government which would translate exhortation into implementation.

MARKETPLACE

In a new monthly column Philip Schofield looks at job vacancies

The British recruitment market is showing clear signs of gradual recovery. Vacancies notified to Jobcentres, a third of the total, averaged 173,000 a month for the three months ending April on a seasonally adjusted basis - 6 per cent above last year. The number of vacancies remaining unfilled in early May was the highest since June 1980.

In April, each weekly issue of *Executive Post*, which advertises the management, professional and technical vacancies notified to PER, carried an average of 620 vacancies - almost 24 per cent up on last year. Although similar jobs on offer advertised in nine national newspapers in March increased by less than 7 per cent, there was a slump in posts overseas and a rise in those in the UK.

Compared with last year, advertised vacancies for the civil service and local government in the first quarter arose 36 per cent, computer vacancies rose 13 per cent and personnel posts by 11 per cent. Vacancies for scientists and technologists fell by 33 per cent, and for engineers by 28 per cent.

Leonard Allen, director of the Federation of Personnel Services, reports that its employment bureaux members have seen "a small but sustained increase in recruitment activity since last November."

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And no man hath ascended up to heaven but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven. St John 3: 13

BIRTHS

ANSTRUTHER-GOUGH-CALTHORPE - On May 10 to Mary Gaye and John, a son (Jacob Richard Penn).

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also on page 33

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM. You do not need a special set to be able to receive this service that gives news digests, as well as traffic, sport and weather information.

6.30 Breakfast Time: Nick Ross and Frank Bough are the presenters. The items include news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45and .15; Sport *at 6.42, 7.18 and 8.18; Keep fit* between 6.45 and 7.00; Today's papers (7.32 and 8.32); Tonight's TV (between 7.15 and 7.20); Bob Friend's America (between 7.45 and 8.00); Closedown at 9.00.

9.15 For Schools, Colleges: Deutschland; 9.32 Spain; 9.49 Descubra Espana; 10.10 Science Workshop; 10.32 National Health; 11.05 Deserts; 11.30 Wales and the Americas: *Patagonia (2)*.

12.30 News After Noon; 12.57 Financial Report. And sub-titled news headlines.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: the lunchtime music and chat show from the foyer studio; *1.45 Gran; 1.50 Stop Go!;* 2.00 You and Me.

2.15 For Schools, Colleges: Music Time and, at 2.40, Computer Club; 3.00 Behind the Horoscope: Evidence for, and against, the practice of telling *fortunes by the stars. A* Horizon programme (r).

3.55 Play School (see BBC 2, 11.00am); 4.20 The Drak Pack: cartoon; 4.40 Heidi; episode 6 of this 26-part children's serial (r); 5.00 John Craven's Newsround; 5.10 Blue Peter.

5.40 News: with Jan Leeming; 6.00 South East at Six; 6.25 Nationwide: the special guest is the singer Dionne Warwick. Plus Sue Lawley's correspondence spot, and another report from the Italia Conti school for would-be actors.

7.00 Tommorrow's World. Items include a report on an *alternative cure for people with* haemophilia who cannot take regular treatment; a possible solution to the problem of disposing of asbestos waste; and a revolutionary rotary engine with very few moving *parts.*

7.25 Top of the Pops: with Mike Reid and Tommy Vance.

8.00 Fame: At the New York High School for Performing Arts, Lydia is angry at the prospect of being fired from a "moonlighting" job and clashes with her exercise teacher.

8.50 Points of View: Barry Took replies to viewers' letters.

9.00 News: with Michael Buerk.

9.25 Jury: sixth episode (of 13) of this drama series tied to individual members of a jury hearing a rape case. Tonight: the story of Mary (Gabrielle Lloyd), single and with a child, who could be in some trouble with the DHSS over social security benefits.

10.15 Question Time: Flanking Sir Robin Day tonight at the Greenwood Theatre in south London are David Basnett, Sir Leo Pliatzky, latterly Permanent Secretary at the Department of Trade, Nicholas Ridley MP, and Elizabeth Sidney, president of the Women's Liberal Federation and chairman of the Liberal Party's employment and industrial relations panel.

11.18 News headlines.

11.20 Everyman: Operation Auca. *The widow and sister of two of* the five American missionaries killed by Auca Indians in the Amazon in 1956, visit the scene of the murders. The killers are interviewed (r).

11.55 Weather prospects for Friday.

TV-am

6.00 Daybreak. Followed, at 6.30 by Good Morning Britain (presented by Lynda Berry and Nick Owen). Includes news at 6.00, 6.15, 6.29, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00 and 9.10; Quiz at 6.27; Morning papers at 6.33 and 8.33; Sport at 6.40 and 7.38; Pop slot at 6.50; Television at 7.50; Guest celebrity at 8.20; Style by Jury at 8.45; Baby Talk at 9.05. Closedown at 9.15.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: Water birds; 9.47 Basic Maths; 10.04 Science *Fiction; 10.21 Sex education;* 10.38 Patterns; 11.01 Picture Box; 11.08 Countryside clues; 11.36 Computers in industry.

12.00 Gammon and Spinach (repeated at 4.00); 12.10 Get up and Go: with Beryl Reid (r); 12.30 The Sullivans: Dramatic news from Terry.

1.00 News from ITN: 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 Crown Court: We learn the verdict in the case of the alleged rape attempt on a beauty contest winner (r).

2.00 A Plus: Interviews with actress Margaret Rawlings and 85-year-old Katherine Moore who has just published her first novel.

2.30 Racing from York: We see three races – 2.35, 3.10 and 3.40.

4.00 Children's ITV: Gammon and Spinach (r); 4.15 Dangermouse: episode 4 of The Tower of Terror; 4.20 First *Post: Sue Robbie comments* on young viewers; letters; 4.30 Rowan's Report: Nick Rowan interviews 13-year-old American "ministox" car racing ace Garry Sparkes; 4.45 Home: Drama series, made in Australia, *about a community* welfare home.

5.15 Emmerdale Farm; Yorkshire countryside serial.

5.45 News from ITN: 6.00 Thames area news: 6.25 Help! The deaf and the shrinking jobs market. Two areas of new hope are discussed.

6.35 Thames Sport: Live from the 40th Royal Windsor Horse Show – the show-jumping and carriage-driven competitions. And a round-up of the other sporting news.

7.00 Knight Rider: There is dirty work afoot (i.e. sabotage) when Knight (David Hasselhoff) takes part in a 2,000-mile road race.

8.00 Michael Barrymore: Comedy sketches, fun with the audience, and a song from Jade. Nicholas Lyndhurst joins Mr Barrymore for more adventures from the lives of the two Mods – Mick and Nick.

8.30 Minder: Birdman of Wormwood Scrubs. The "birdman" is a bank robber (Max Wall) who has just completed a 14-year sentence. He now wants to collect the *£250,000 proceeds of the* robbery, and requires a "minder". Terry (Denis Waterman) obliges. Co-starring George Cole, Stephen Greif and Maurice Denham (r).

9.30 TV Eye: Three-party discussion on the general election, and the results of an opinion poll on the main issues.

10.00 News at Ten. Followed by Thames news headlines.

10.30 Thames Sport Special: Further coverage of the 40th Royal Windsor Horse Show. Plus a report on the Trident International Driving Grand Prix.

11.30 Lou Grant: An official *complaint against the Tribune* comes before a watchdog committee, and this makes Lou (Edward Asner) very angry.

12.25 Close: Michael Hordern reads from The Pilgrim's Progress.

Anna Campbell Jones in First Love-Secrets (Channel 4, 9.30pm).

CHOICE

● FIRST LOVE: SECRETS (Channel 4, 9.30pm) is not about *first love at all, but it is very much* about secrets, and about acquiring wisdom, and about the games that youngsters play that are based on the games that grown-ups play. What puts the non-freemason viewer at something of a disadvantage, however, is that the ludicrous ceremonies the girls observe after lights-out at their boarding school are based on what the plot asks us to believe is a manual of masonic ritual. But can *this really be what our nice and* sensible husbands, fathers, next-door neighbours and local pillars of the community get up to when they leave home twice a week and repair to their local lodge? It is the supply of contraceptives unexpectedly found by a teenage girl *in her dead* father's masonic case that fuels the joke at the centre of Noella Smith's determindly different kind of comedy which, cleverly written though it is, would have fallen flat on its face if the company of young players who carry much of the *burden of the acting had been too* knowing (i.e. drama school-trained). Theirs are new, fresh and eager faces, and even if we never hear or see any more of these girls (a scarcely conceivable fate), they have added to the heap of laurels that Channel 4's Films on Four policy is beginning to build.

● For obvious reasons, tonight's film in the BBC's HONOURABLE MEMBERS series about MPs' lives has been dropped. Its replacement, *about the hobby of fish-keeping* (6.55pm) is suitably anodyne. Only campaigners against animals being kept in captivity should object.

● *Radio highlights:* The soprano Felicity Lott, fast becoming the darling of the critics (you need do no more than read the notices of the current Covent Garden production of The Carmelites to realise this), sings works by Schumann, Wolf, Fauré, Delius and Berners in today's live concert from Bristol (Radio 3 1.05pm) . . . . And there is another chance to hear Arnold Wesker's play CARITAS (Radio 3, 8.00pm), *which explores, at two levels, the* impact of the Church on some diverse 14th century figures. They are Christine Carpenter, who threw up everything to embrace the religious life, and the riotous adherents of Walt Tyler to whom the religious establishment was anathema.

BBC 2

6.05 Open University (until 8.10). Maths; 6.30 Electronics; 6.55 Pathways in the Brain; 7.20 England is the Place for Me; 7.45 The Objector.

11.00 Play School: Judy Whitfield's story The Sad Indian (also on BBC 1 at 3.55); Closedown at 11.25.

5.10 Handicapped in the Community: How two young children have learned to cope with mental handicap.

5.40 Second Sight: The Thompson *Twins in a concert recorded at* the Regal Theatre, in Hitchin (r).

6.25 Dear Hart: Teenagers' programme with a magazine format. Includes the case of the patient who is convinced that he is a gorilla. Plus an item on a Rent a Granny agency.

6.50 News summary; with sub-titles.

6.55 Fancy Fish. The first of five programmes which will explore the hobby of fish-keeping. Tonight's film, which replaces part 2 of Honourable Members, is called Living Jewels.

7.20 Catherine Deneuve at the National Film Theatre: Michael Billington interviews the French actress whose films include The Young Girls of Rochefort (to be screened on BBC Television next Saturday).

8.00 *Behind the Scenes with* Vladimir Ashkenazy: We see the pianist at work with the Philharmonia Orchestra. He both conducts and performs at the keyboard (from BBC 1).

8.30 *Food and Drink:* We learn about the world's most expensive potatoes; the threat to Britain's local cheeses; and how to get the best value from the wine shelves at your local supermarket. With Henry Kelly and Susan Grossman (food) and Jill Goolden (drink).

9.00 The Young Ones: Rick, Vyv, Neil and Mike make a surprising discovery when they move into the house *provided for them by their* landlord. Rik Meyall heads the cast.

9.35 Britain in the Thirties: Korda at Denham. The story of the famous Buckinghamshire studios, ruled over by Alexander Korda, is told by some of the men and women who worked there. With clips from some famous Korda movies, and a return visit to where the studios used to stand.

10.05 West Country Tales: With Love, Belinda. Drama about a bereavement in the family. With Wendy Richard and Charlotte Helyer (as the little girl Belinda).

10.35 Newsnight.

11.30 Open University: Images (the third dimension). And, at 11.55 The Language of Advancement (bi-lingual policy in Welsh schools). Ends at 12.25am.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 *Tennis that Counts: Adrian* Stonebridge's tennis course ends with advice on how to find more time to play strokes effectively by keeping a sharp eye on the vital moment when the ball bounces.

5.30 Countdown: Kenneth Williams's role of referee in this words and numbers game is taken over this week by the author and scriptwriter Gyles Brandreth. Introducing the programme, as usual, is Richard Whiteley.

6.00 The Good Food Show: Monthly programme, from HTV, with the cookery writer and restaurateur Prue Leith; Bill Weeks (looking at *marketing techniques); and* Clive Gunnell (on unusual British flavours). Watch it before you buy a new saucepan.

6.30 Get Smart: Secret service *spoof, from the United States,* starring Don Adams, who is called in tonight after an attempt to assassinate CONTROL's chief fails.

7.00 Channel Four News: Followed at 7.50, by Comment, which tonight is from Louise Service, a senior magistrate and company chairman. Plus weather prospects.

8.00 The Optimist: Comedy series starring Enn Reitel. Tonight, he takes an appealing little girl to the circus. Filmed, without dialogue, at a California open-air circus site, and starring some of Hollywood's top stuntmen.

8.30 Alter Image: Arts magazine. Includes a teach-in on the philosophy behind the Memphis range of furniture by Ettore Sottsass; argument from The Promenaders: and a riding lesson with TV costume designer Louise Walker. Plus a contribution from BIFF.

9.00 Soap: Jessica tells Peter that their affair must end, and Jodie tells the family about his planned sex change. This is a *repeat of episode 5 of the* comedy series about the mad Tates and Campbells (r).

9.30 Film on Four: First Love – Secrets. Noella Smith's comedy, set mainly in a girls boarding school, has a laugh at the expense of Freemasonry. Starring Helen Lindsay as the worried widow, and Anna Campbell-Jones as the daughter who starts up a freemasonry movement of her *own. Directed* by Gavin Millar (see Choice).

10.55 What the Papers Say: Looking at the headlines and the accompanying text tonight is the freelance journalist Peter Paterson.

11.10 Haim Hertzog: President of Israel. Brian Farrell interviews the Belfast-born president who is a former West Bank governor and army general. Ends at 11.55.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day; 6.55, 7.55 Weather; 7.00, 8.00 Today's News; 7.25, 8.25 Sport; 7.30, 8.30 News Headlines; 7.45 Thought for the Day; 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament; 8.57 Weather, Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Checkpoint. Investigation into listeners' problems of unfair dealings and injustice.
9.30 The Living World.
10.00 News.
10.02 Enterprise. People who have achieved success against the odds.
10.30 Morning Story: 'The Big Sell' by Phil Conlon. The reader is Mark Mulholland.
10.45 Daily Service.†
11.00 News; Travel.
11.03 Xanadu. A redundancy scheme which replaces depression with hope.
11.48 Enquire Within.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 Watson and Holmes. Carleton Hobbs and Norman Shelley in the 'The Boscombe Valley Mystery'.
12.55 Weather; Travel; Programme News.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers.
1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour. Edward Blishen contributes an item on African writers.
3.00 News.
3.02 Afternoon Theatre. 'The Bartlett Foundation' by Stan Bradshaw, starring Christian Rodska.†
4.00 News.
4.02 Holy Communion on Ascension Day from All Souls' Church, Langham Place, London.
4.40 Story Time: 'The Russian Interpreter' by Michael Frayn.(9)
5.00 PM: News Magazine.
5.50 Shipping Forecast.
5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 Brain of Britain 1983.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Concert Prelude.†
7.30 Purcell and Handel Part 1. Includes Purcell's Trio-Sonata no 3 in A minor.†
7.55 Any Answers?
8.15 Purcell and Handel's Violin *Sonata in D, Op 1, no 13.*†
9.05 Fields of Gold. A documentary about oil seed rape.
9.30 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: 'The Handyman' by Penelope Mortimer.(9)
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News; Weather.
12.15am-12.23 Shipping Forecast; Inshore Forecast.

ENGLAND VHF with as above except: 6.25am-6.30 Weather; Travel. 9.05-10.45 For Schools: 9.05 Noticeboard. 9.10 A Service for Schools. 9.30 Spelling and Punctuation. 9.45Spoken English. 9.55 Poetry Corner. 10.05 Sounds, Words and Movement. 10.20 Stories and Rhymes. *10.30 Cook and Speak.* 11.00-12.00 For Schools: 11.00 Reading Music. 11.05 In the News. 11.30 Music Interlude. 11.35 Why Don't You Get a Proper Job? 1.55pm Listening Corner. 2.00-3.00 For Schools: 2.00 Living Language. 2.20 Radio Geography. 2.40 Exploring Society. *5.50-5.55 PM* (continued). 11.00 Study on 4: Another Door Opens. 11.30-12.10 Open University: 11.30 Poetry and Drama. 11.50 Village Schools.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: Mendelssohn, Falla (Fantasia baetica), Tchaikovsky, Dvorak (Serenade in D minor; records.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Telemann, C.P.E. Bach, Kodaly (Dawes from Marosszek): records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Lennox Berkeley; records (includes Horn *Trio Op 44).*
10.00 Wilhelm Stenhammar: Orchestral music on records.†
11.00 Cello and Piano: Patrick Piggott and Steven Isserlis; Brahms (Sonata No 2 in F, Op 99).†
11.45 Dresden State Orchestra: Haydn (Symphony No 102), Schumann, Stravinsky.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Bristol Lunchtime Concert: Song recital; Schumann, Wolf, Faure, Delius, Berners. With Felicity Lott (soprano) and Graham Johnson (piano).†
2.00 Flute and Piano: David *Matthews, Lennox Berkeley.*†
2.30 Acis und Galatea: Handel arr. Mozart (K566). An Austrian Radio recording from January's Salzburg Mozart week. With Anthony Rolfe Johnson and Edith Mathis.†
4.15 Mozart from Salzburg: Serenade *in D K.185 from the Salzburg* Mozart week.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
6.30 Bandstand. Besses o' th' Barn Band: Gareth Wood, Elgar Wood, Elgar Howarth.†
7.00 Ebu String *Quartet* Days 1983. Third of five programmes from last month's string quartets forum in Cambridge.
8.00 Caritas: Play by Arnold Wesker. With Patti Love as the anchoress (r)†
9.35 *Music for Clarinet and Piano:* Ireland, Saint-Saens, Milhaud. Played by Keith Puddy and John Street.†
10.15 Music in Our Time. Dutilleux, Rene oering, Takemitsu.
11.15-11.18 News.

VHF ONLY: Open University: 6.15 am Decisions on Energy. 6.35-6.55 (Music interlude) 11.20 pm Maths Foundation Tutorial. 11.40-12.00 Artists and Philosophy.

Radio 2

5.00am Ray Moore†. 7.30 Terry Wogan†. 10.00 Jimmy Young†. 12.00pm Music While You Work†. 12.30 Gloria Hunniford† including 2.02 Sports Desk 2.30 Ed Stewart† including 3.00 Sports Desk 4.00 David Hamilton† including 4.02, 5.30 Sports Desk. 6.00 John Dunn† including 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only) 7.28 Cricket Desk. 7.30 Among Your Souvenirs†. 8.30 Country Club†. 9.30 Star Sound Extra. 9.57 Sports Desk. 10.00 The News Hudlines with Roy Hudd. 1.00am Acker's 'Alf 'Our†. 1.30 The Organist Entertains† with Nell Ogden. 2.00-5.00 Bill Rennells† presents You and the Night and the Music.

Radio 1

6.00am Adrian John with The Early Show. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, including 12.30pm Newsbeat. 2.00pm Steve Wright. 4.30 Peter Powell, including 5.30 Newsbeat. 7.00 Talkabout. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel†. 12 midnight Close. VHF Radios 1 and 2 5.00am with Radio 2. 10.0pm with Radio 1. 12.00-5.00am with Radio 2.

World Service

6.00am Newsdesk. 6.30 Nature Notebook. 6.40 The Farming World. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Country Style. 7.45 Network U.K. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 International Soccer Special. 8.30 John Peel. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 What the Foreigner Saw. 10.00 The Art of Daniel Barenboim. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 New Ideas. 11.25 The Week in Wales. 11.30 Assignment. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Top Twenty. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 The Pleasure's Yours. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Assignment. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 8.30 A Jolly Good Show. 9.15 Ulster Newsletter. 9.20 In the Meantime. 9.30 Business Matters. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00am World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 With Great Pleasure. 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 Ulster Newsletter. 1.55 In the Meantime. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 The Chanson. 2.30 Origins. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 *Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary.* 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152kHz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1

WALES 12.57-1.00pm News of Wales headlines. 3.53-3.55 News of Wales headlines. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 11.55 News of Wales headlines and weather. Close. SCOTLAND 12.55-1.00 Scottish News. 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland. 11.55 Scottish News Summary and Weather. Close. NORTHERN IRELAND 11.30-11.50am For Schools: Green Peas and Barley. 12.57-1.00pm Northern Ireland news. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland news. 6.00-6.25 Scene Around Six. 11.55 Northern Ireland news headlines and weather. Close. ENGLAND 6.00-6.25pm Regional News magazine. 12.00 Midnight close.

S4C

Starts: 2.20pm Ffalabalam. 2.35 Hyn o Fyd. 2.55 Interval. 3.35 Address Unknown. 4.50 Clwb S4C. 4.55 Pili-Pala. 5.00 Ffiech Heulyn. 5.30 Dick van Dyke Show. 6.00 Brookside. 6.25 Countdown. 6.55 Gair yn el Bryd. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Teulu Ffôn. 8.25 O Gwmpas Theatrau. 8.55 St Elsewhere. 9.50 Vietnam. *10.45 Film: Dark Angel.* Soldier leaves his plush home and sweetheart for the terrors of the trenches. 12.30am Gair yn el Bryd. 12.35 Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15 Crossroads. 5.40-5.45 Bodyline. 3.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Golf Doctor. 6.35 Talking Scots. 7.05 Report. 7.35-9.00 Film: Pursuit. As TVS. 10.30 Hill Street Blues. 11.25 Late Call. 11.30 Sense of the Past. 12.00 Crann Tara. 12.30am Closedown.

HTV

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes 6.00 News 6.40 Crossroads 7.05 Emmerdale Farm 7.35-9.00 Film: Pursuit. As TVS. 10.30 Scene '83 11.00 Sense of the Past 11.30 Barney Miller 12.00 Closedown.

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.40 Wales at Six 10.30 Wales this Week 11.00-11.30 Sense of the Past

BORDER

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35-9.00 Film: Pursuit. As TVS. 10.30 Sense of the Past. 11.00 Hill Street Blues. 12.00 News. 12.30am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Paint Along with Nancy. 1.20-1.30 News. 5.15-*5.45 Benson. 6.00 Calendar.* 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35-9.00 Film: Pursuit. As TVS. 10.30 Sense of the Past. 11.00 Hill Street Blues. 12.00 Closedown.

CENTRAL

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 About Britain 1.20-1.30 News 5.15-5.45 Chintz 6.00 Crossroads 6.25 News 7.05 Emmerdale Farm 7.35-9.00 Film: Pursuit. As TVS. 10.30 Central Lobby 11.10 News 11.15 Sense of the Past 11.45 Ladies' Man 12.15am Closedown.

GRANADA

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Two of Us. 1.20-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00-2.30 Exchange Flags. 5.15-5.45 Does the Team Think? 6.00 This Is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 Granada Reports. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35-9.00 Film: Pursuit. As TVS. 10.30 Hill Street Blues. 11.30 A Sense of the Past. 12.00 Jazz Series. 12.30am Closedown.

TSW

As London except: *1.20pm-1.30 News* 5.15 Gus Honeybun 5.20-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Today South West 6.35 Gardens for All 7.05 Diff'rent Strokes 7.35-9.00 Film: Pursuit. As TVS. 10.35 Making a Living 11.00 Sense of the Past 11.30 Journey to the Unknown 12.30am Postscript 12.35 Closedown.

ANGLIA

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.25 Arena. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Survival. 7.35-9.00 Film: Pursuit. As TVS. 10.30 Indoor Bowls. 11.15 Sense of the Past. 11.45 Making a Living. 12.15am Big Question. Closedown.

ULSTER

As London except: 1.20 Lunchtime. 3.58 Ulster News. 5.15 Benson. 6.00 Good Evening, Ulster. 6.25 Police Six. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35 Murder, Mystery, Suspense: Pursuit. 9.00 Michael Barrymore. 10.29 Ulster Weather. 10.30 Counterpoint. 11.00 A Sense of the Past. 11.30 News at Bedtime.

GRAMPIAN

As London except: 9.25am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.35 Police News. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Electric Theatre Show. 7.35-9.00 Film: Pursuit. As TVS. 10.30 Cover to Cover. 11.00 Sense of the Past. 11.30 Crann-Tara. 12.00 News. 12.05am Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: Starts 9.25am-9.30 News. *1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45* One of the Boys. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35-9.00 Film: Pursuit. As TVS. 10.32 Come In. 11.00 Comin' Up. 11.05 Sense of the Past. 11.35 Ladies Man. 12.00 Ascensiontide. 12.05am Closedown.

TVS

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35-9.00 Film: Pursuit (Ben Gazzara) Extremist threatens a US political convention. 10.30 Seven Days. 11.00 Sense of the Past. 11.30 House Calls. 12.00 Company. Closedown.

CHANNEL

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News 5.20-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Channel Report 6.30 Cartoon 6.35 Gardens for All 7.05 Diff'rent Strokes 7.35-9.00 Film: Pursuit. As TVS. 10.35 Making a Living 11.00 A Sense of the Past 11.30 Journey to the Unknown 12.30am Closedown.

Budget rebate problem persists

By Patricia Clough

The European Community summit in Stuttgart on June 6 and 7 will not produce a long-term solution to Britain's contributions to the EEC budget and it is not certain that it will agree on Britain's 1983 rebate either, the House of Commons was told yesterday.

But MPs were assured by Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, that the Government was "absolutely confident that it will achieve a settlement of the (rebate) problem which is satisfactory to the House and the British people."

Meanwhile, in Brussels the budget committee of the European Parliament agreed not to block Britain's rebate for 1983 to avoid embarrassing the Government just before the elections. The Parliament is expected to approve the decision.

Last year, the European Parliament refused for several months to approve the rebate in order to force member governments to look for a long-term solution to the Community budget problem.

In Westminster, question time on EEC matters had turned into a miniature version of the forthcoming election campaign in which Britain's membership of the Community is likely to be one of the principal issues. Catchy phrases and figures flew as members on both sides tried out their ammunition.

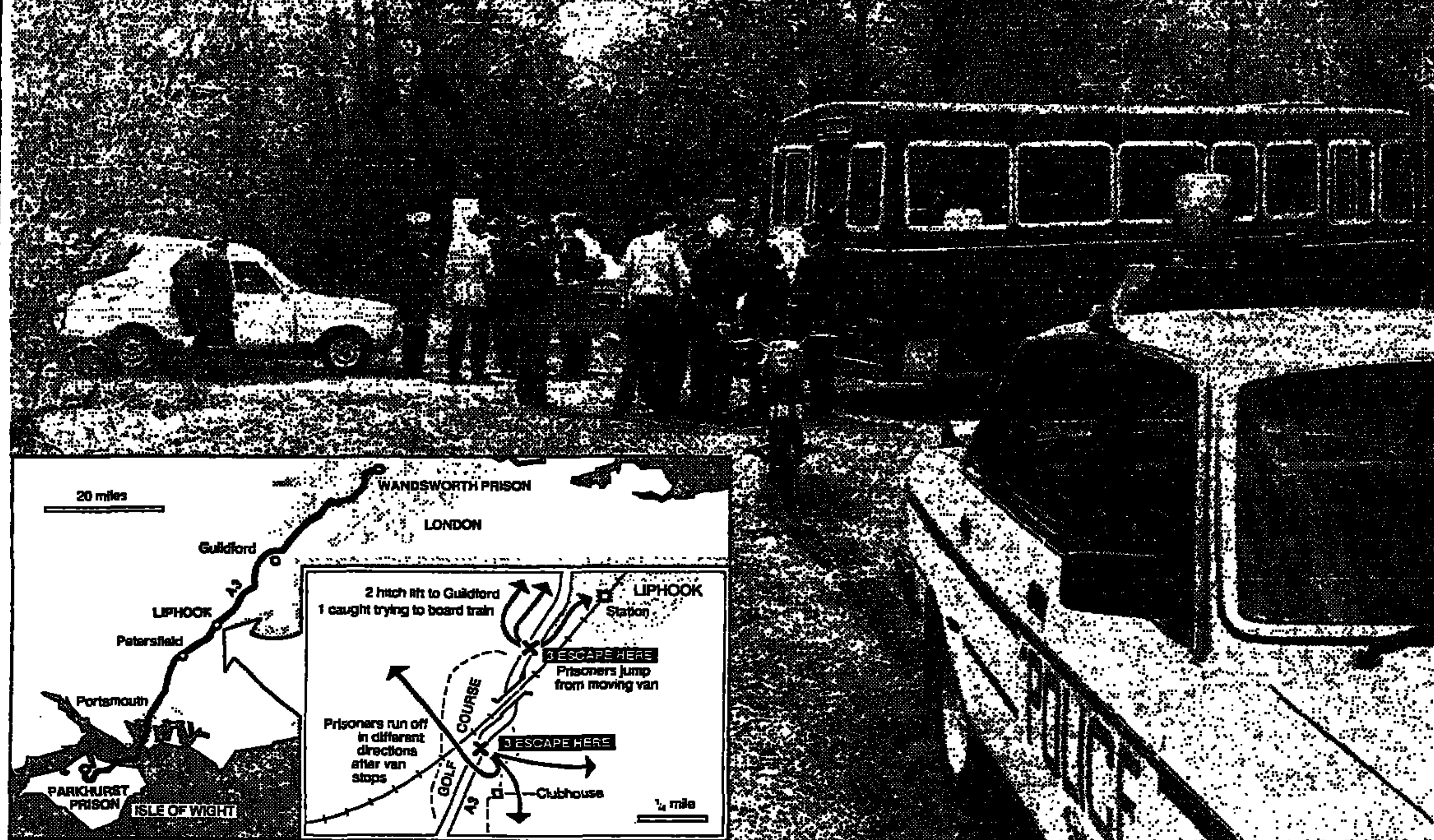
"The Prime Minister said she would get an agreement by June." Mr Eric Heffer, the Opposition's main spokesman on EEC said. "It is clear there is not to be an agreement by June. Is it not an idea for the Prime Minister not to bother to go to Stuttgart but to wait until after the general election and we have won it and begun the process of withdrawal?"

MR Ioan Evans, another staunch Labour opponent of British membership, asked the Foreign Secretary to confirm that since it entered, the EEC has cost Britain £6,000m and as a nation £1m for every day?"

Mr Pym counter-attacked with more figures: the Government had been able to negotiate a total refund of £2,000m so far.

It remained to be seen whether Stuttgart would agree on a rebate on Britain's contributions to the 1983 budget

EEC olive branch, page 6



Investigation under way: Police and prison officers at the scene of the van escape near Liphook golf course, Hampshire.

Prisoners on the run after van escape

Continued from page 1

club, telephoned the police and closed the course for an hour-and-a-half while police dogs were used to search for the men. It was reopened in the afternoon for a women's match.

Of the three golf course escapers one, later identified as Stephen Whitnall, aged 32, serving a 9-year sentence for kidnapping and blackmail, gave himself up to a reporter from *The Sun* newspaper, who took him to Alton police station.

The two still at large last night were James Stuart Watts, aged 26, serving 10 years of robbery; and Anthony Jones, aged 33, serving five years for robbery and theft.

The eight prisoners who remained in the van, not attempting to escape, were driven to Havant police station.

Mr Ship, the principal prison officer, said: "I had handcuffs forced round my throat as they tried to choke me during the fight. They had me on the floor of the coach and they managed to get the keys off one of the other officers to release the handcuffs.

"The guards were shaken and suffered cuts and bruises, but none of us was seriously injured. The men involved are not Category A prisoners, but being prisoners they can be dangerous."

Inspector Ron Nevitt, of Sussex police, said the prisoners who were handcuffed in pairs, had staged a mock fight as a diversion, before they overpowered the officers. He said the driver, who was in a secure cabin, would have been under orders to keep going.

Two of the prisoners, John Virtue aged 37, serving 10 years for robbery, and Henry Wright, 45, serving 10 years for theft and robbery, were recaptured at Guildford last night. Virtue had been involved in a previous escape, from Wormwood Scrubs in 1966. He was recaptured after five weeks and sentenced to two years for his part in the escape.

The governor of Wandsworth prison will be carrying out an inquiry into the escape. The van was unescorted.

Labour agrees election manifesto

Continued from page 1

Mr Mortimer did not exaggerate. The sensitive passages notably on nuclear weapons and the European Community, were constructed at numerous sessions between January and March, where totally opposite views were reconciled and every word fought for.

The result can be differently read by different members of the party, not least by Mr Foot, a unilateralist, and Mr Denis Healey, his multilateralist deputy.

This joint leadership and its supporters were not prepared to risk the structure by allowing the adjustment of a comma.

● The Conservatives are given a 17½ per cent lead over Labour in a Gallup opinion poll published in today's *Daily Telegraph*.

The poll, conducted over the weekend, shows the Tories have the support of 49 per cent of the electorate, Labour 31½ per cent, the SDP-Liberal Alliance 17½ per cent and other parties 2 per cent.

Shergar's sperm 'could have been sold'

By John Witherow

Racing experts conceded yesterday that Shergar, one of the world's most valuable horses kidnapped three months ago in the Irish Republic, could have its sperm used to impregnate mares by artificial insemination.

Though such a possibility may deserve more attention in a Dick Francis thriller, they said the discovery that Shergar's illegally-sired offspring could eventually be racing would throw the bloodstock industry into confusion.

The prevalence of such a theory reflects the mystery surrounding the kidnapping. After initial contact with the armed gang there has been silence and many in the industry feel the 1981 Derby winner is dead.

Members of the syndicate which owns Shergar have lodged claims totalling £6m with insurance companies, a payout that would be the biggest in the history of bloodstock insurance.

But if Shergar is alive (some think he is being hidden in a remote part of Northern Ireland), it is possible his sperm could be sold. He would have been worth over £3m this year alone for covering mares at £70,000 a time.

There is a system of blood tests to check foal's parentage, although it is not foolproof. About 25 per cent of thoroughbred foals each year are randomly selected for tests to verify parentage.

That means false papers claiming another stallion as parent would have a 75 per cent chance of slipping through the net. Within five years, however, the Jockey Club hopes that all foals will have blood tests and such frauds would be exposed.

But is possible that Shergar's sperm could be forzen and sent to a country where regulations are less rigid. I his progeny were then introduced to Europe or the United States it might be impossible to check the parentage.

Weatherby's, the firm which holds the stud book for the Jockey Club, said such a fraud was possible in the short term and as long as it was not done on too wide a scale.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Two minutes on English starting – now

For Mr Michael English all life is but an eternal edition of *Mastermind*. His special subject is Parliamentary Procedure, with Special Reference to Points of Order. He also does quite will on general knowledge.

And as with all those train drivers and taxi drivers who tend to win the annual award, Mr English is a great encouragement to self-improvers. For he does not have the sort of educated job associated with a man with such a vast knowledge of parliamentary procedure. He is an MP.

He took up the interest as a hobby shortly after being elected for a Nottingham seat in the Labour interest in 1964. By boring away diligently in his spare time, he has made himself the master of one of the most tedious of all branches of human knowledge. He is a lesson to us all.

But yesterday came the sudden news that, as a result of those dark processes in his party broadly embraced by the term "reselection", Mr English will not now be a candidate for any Nottingham seat in the forthcoming election. It must be assumed that he will not be a candidate anywhere, certainly not a seat likely to be won by his party.

It was sad news. Who would bore for Britain now? Many's the time Mr English made the House comatose with a single precedent. When Mr English would enter the chamber with a stack of pre-1914 Hansards under his arm, Speakers would slump, the wigs of the learned clerks at the table would slip in despair beneath the fast-closing eyes of their owners.

For whatever the procedural question, Mr English always had the answer, although it was because only he knew the question. But yesterday, with only three days of his parliamentary career left to him, there was not a decent procedural irregularity in sight. He sat in his usual seat below the gangway, condemned to silence.

The House picked its way listlessly through the last foreign affairs question time of the Parliament. Another Labour member who is not standing again, the left-winger Mr Frank Allaun, the grand old man of Soviet peace initiatives, asked for the last time why Britain and Nato could not make "a reciprocal offer" to the Kremlin's latest ploy in the disamament game, just as he had done for the last 30 years.

In that rather overbearing way of his Mr Winston Churchill, the Conservative member for Stretford, warned of the danger of entrusting Britain's security "to the good will and sense of honour of the men who from time to time may hold sway in the Kremlin", just as Mr Churchill will be doing, alas, for the next 30 years. Still no scope for a point of order from Mr English.

Question time drifted to a close. Mr David Alton, the Liberal member for Edge Hill, announced that, in view of the imminent dissolution of Parliament, he had withdrawn his private member's bill about which he was due to speak that day.

The Bill provided for elections to be held under a system of proportional representation. Suddenly Mr English was on his feet. At last he had a point of order. "I was the member who had given notice that I wished to oppose the hon member for Edge Hill and mentioned it to him," he announced.

"Is it not an abuse of our procedures to book time and then withdraw it after the time at which it is possible for other hon members to book the same time?" he protested, the blood surging through his precedents for the last time, just as it had done so often since 1964.

"The thing, perhaps, which cuts me to the quick is that he has deprived me of my swan song in this House when it was just possible I might have managed to defeat him with the votes of both parties," he told the Speaker, Mr George Thomas.

Mr English said it with a smile. But we knew that in reality his heart was torn.

Mr Nicholas Winterton, the exuberant Conservative member for Macclesfield, rose. No proceduralist, he. Indeed, procedure was invented to control people such as him. He dispensed with Englisherian subtleties. He just announced that the Liberals lacked the courage to raise the matter so close to an election.

But the Speaker, who himself will not be a memeber of the next Parliament, wearily ruled that it was in order for a member to withdraw a Bill if he so chose.

"I think I have had enough now," sighed the Speaker, which phrase must serve as the epitaph to the English Years.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Prince of Wales attends the formal dedication ceremony of the Maureen Production Platform, Kishorn, Wester Ross, 11.30.

Princess Anne attends the Floral Luncheon in aid of the Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts Workshops, Savoy Hotel, London, 12.30.

The Duke of Gloucester opens the Fitzwilliam Hospital, Peterborough, 3.

Princess Alexandra opens Hay Lodge Hospital and Health Centre, Peebles, 2; opens new park in Walkerburn, Scotland, 4.

Exhibitions in progress

Tolly Cobbold Eastern Arts Exhibition (British art competition entries), Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street, **Cambridge**: Tues to Sat 10 to 4.50, Sun 2.15 to 4.50 (until May 29).

Teamworks: by Dundee Group (artists) and Dundee Printmakers Workshop, Meadowplace Gallery, 10 Victoria Chambers, **Dundee**; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 6, closed Tuesdays (until May 29).

Etchings by Stephen Whittle; and original prints from Royal Academy Graphics, Timaeus, 2a Salisbury Road, Mosely, **Birmingham**; Mon to Fri 10 to 4, Wed 10 to 7.30 (until June 3).

Landscape in Britain 1850-1950, City Museum and Art Gallery, Queen's Road, **Bristol**; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun; (until June 4).

Lincolnshire and South Humberside Artists Society exhibition, Usher Gallery, Lincoln Road, **Lincoln**; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5; (until May 29).

Superhumanism in Wales, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Alexandra Road, **Swansea**; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5, closed Sun; (until May 28).

Skyeworks: Kites and banners designed and made by Skye Morrison, Castle Museum, The Castle, **Nottingham**; daily 10 to 4.45; (until June 5).

Paintings by Vanessa Bell, Royal Museum and Art Gallery, High Street, **Canterbury**; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun; (until May 28).

Work by Sidney Rose-Neil, Stantonbury Gallery, Stantonbury Campus, **Milton Keynes**, daily 9 am to 10 pm; (until May 22).

Private Views: self-portraits and portraits, University of East Anglia Library, **Norwich**; Mon to Thurs 9 am to 10 pm, Fri 9 to 8, Sat 9 to 5, Sun 2 to 7; (until May 27).

The Story of the Artists International Association; and Photomontage by Peter Kennard: Despatches from an Unofficial War Artist; Museum of Modern Art, 30 Pembroke Street, **Oxford**; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun to 5, closed Mon; (until May 22).

How We Used To Live: Everyday life in the years between the abdication of Edward VIII and the Coronation of Elizabeth II, Museum and Art Gallery, Chequers Road, **Doncaster**; Mon to Thurs 10 to 5, closed Fri, Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until June 10).

Last chance to see

Japanese Inheritance: ancient and modern Japan, Central Library, George IV Bridge, **Edinburgh**; Mon to Fri 9 to 9, Sat 9 to 1 (ends today).

Drawings and sculpture by Joseph Beuys, City Art Gallery, The Headrow, **Leeds**; Mon to Sat 10 to 6, Sun 10 to 5 (ends Sunday).

Portrait of Craftsmen by Adrian Ford, and portraits by David Ward; John Hansard Gallery, **Southampton** Univeristy; Mon to Sat 10 to 6, closed Sun (ends tomorrow).

Carpets and hangings by Mike and Claire Booth, Rozelle House, Rozelle Park, **Ayr**; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends today).

Music

Concert by English Sinfonia, De Monfort Hall, Granville Road, **Leicester**, 7.30.

Recital by Felicity Lott (soprano) and Graham Johnson (piano), St George's, Brandon Hill, **Bristol**, 1.

Recital by King's Consort, Claire College Chapel, **Cambridge**, 8.

Concert by Oxford Pro Musica, Town Hall, **Oxford**, 8.

Concert by City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Colston Hall, **Bristol**, 7.30.

Talks, lectures

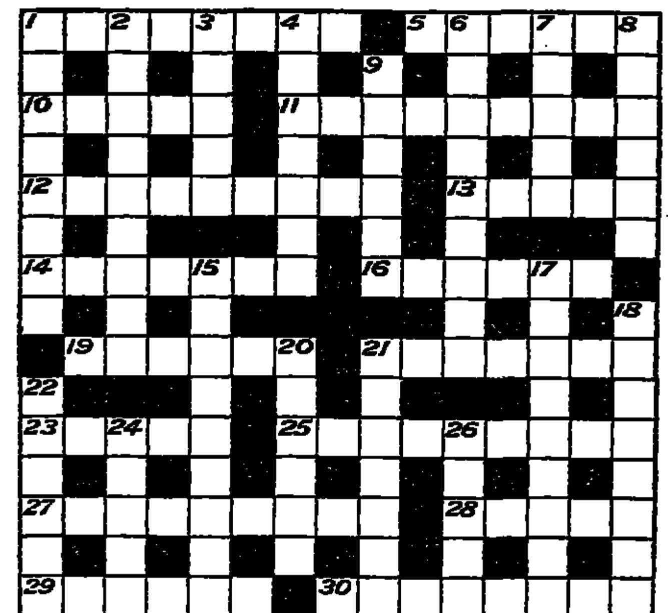
Industrial Policy, by Lord Ezra, Faculty of Education, **Birmingham** University, 6.

Castle Howard, Vanbrugh and the English Baroque, illustrated talk by Michael Millward, Museum and Art Gallery, Library Street, **Blackburn**, 7.30.

General

Boat Show, **Brighton** Marina, 10.30 to 7.30 (daily until May 15).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,127



ACROSS
1 Case for slow-coach to motor at speed (8).
5 Forms need to be filled in here (6).
10 Decimal frequency (5).
11 Chemical test of breadcrumbs on bird-table? (9).
12 For one on top of the world it's the only way (9).
13 Keep to the point – it's a strong one (5).
14 Right to cheat one student oddly enough (7).
16 Deliver speech about point that's highly embellished (6).
19 Charge a broadcaster going by river (6).
21 He's allowed to enter the odd heat (7).
23 Tuck in this dress for riding (5).
25 Undertaking to compel creation of special unit (4,5).
27 A tiny brain mutation – no unknown quantity in a ruler (9).
28 Top hound a useful possession (5).
29 Way to go on horseback or on foot (6).
30 Aspire perhaps to separate opposing sides with a vengeance (8).

DOWN
1 None may enter here so to speak (8).
2 Acknowledgment of hit in colour, picture being thus improved (9).
3 Drink could be the reverse of OK (5).
4 One of seven the theatre gallery gave Gus (7).
6 Songster a bit husky in church (9).
7 One's taken from bed and put in the basket (5).
8 Ten-love – it's all over. Gets the bird (6).
9 Room for artistic work or sometimes play (6).
15 Where on the premises to woo the police (9).
17 Speculates how hero is set adrift (9).
18 Stand in gallery. May be a bust up (8).
20 Prolong out of mind (6).
21 Cooked sausage may so allay the pangs of hunger (7).
22 Cup-bearer enters back-street of the old city (6).
24 Whence the smoke rose right after the cheese (5).
26 Faculty honest about money (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,126

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

New books – paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:
A Millstone Round my Neck, the restoration of a Cornish water mill, by Norman Thelwell (Methuen, £3.50)
Four Films of Woody Allen (Faber, £5.95)
Lectures on Literature, by Vladimir Nabokov (Picador, £3.95)
Lectures on Russian Literature, by Vladimir Nabokov (Picador, £3.95)
Literary Theory; an introduction, by Terry Eagleton (Blackwell, £4.95)
Macro-economics, by Wynne Godley & Francis Cripps (Fontana, £3.95)
Minor Characters, by Joyce Johnson (Picador, £2.50)
Oxford, by Edward Thomas (Hutchinson, £3.95)
The Conformist, by Alberto Moravia (Granada, £1.95)
The Intruder, by Gillian Tindall (Pavanne, £1.95)
PH

Postal proxy voting

If you think you may not be able to vote in the forthcoming general election because you are ill, disabled or blind, or if you are likely to be away from home on polling day because of work* (but not because you are on holiday), or if you have moved to an address in another electoral division since October 10 last year (September 15 in Northern Ireland), then you may be entitled to vote by postal proxy.

You should apply without delay to your electoral registration officer, whose address is available from your Town Hall, for a postal proxy voting application form. This must be returned by noon on Friday, May 20.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Proceedings on the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill. Motions on Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order and on the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1978 (Continuance) Order.

Lords (3): National Heritage Bill and Mobile Homes Bill, Commons amendments. Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill, report and remaining stages. Copyright (Amendment) Bill, second reading and remaining stages. Prohibition of Female Circumcision Bill, report and remaining stages. Importation of Milk Bill, Education (Fees and Awards) Bill and Local Authorities (Expenditure Powers) Bill, all stages.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.86	1.77
Austria Sch	28.30	26.50
Belgium Fr	79.50	75.50
Canada $	1.98	1.90
Denmark Kr	14.17	13.45
Finland Mkk	8.89	8.39
France Fr	11.96	11.36
Germany DM	3.96	3.76
Greece Dr	133.50	125.50
Hongkong $	11.14	10.56
Ireland Pt	1.25	1.19
Italy Lira	2340.00	2230.00
Japan Yen	380.00	360.00
Netherlands Gld	4.45	4.23
Norway Kr	11.55	10.95
Portugal Esc	160.00	148.00
South Africa Rd	1.97	1.83
Spain Pta	216.00	205.00
Sweden Kr	12.17	11.55
Switzerland Fr	3.33	3.15
USA $	1.62	1.55
Yugoslavia Dnr	1.25	1.19

Retail Price Index: 327.9.
London: The *FT* Index closed down 4.1 at 672.6.

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Roads

London and South-east: Chelsea Bridge: Single lane traffic causing delays during morning rush hour. Congestion in Windsor town centre, and on A322 and A308, because of Royal Windsor Horse Show, Berkshire. Dartford Tunnel approach road: All traffic sharing one side of A282, Kent side of Thames; serious delays.

Midlands and East Anglia: M1: Lane closures at junction 19 (M6); serious delays. M5: Lane closures between junctions 7 (Whittington) and 8 (Strensham). M50: Lane closures from junction 1 to junction 4 (Tewkesbury to Ross-on-Wye).

North: A1(M): Lane closures at Aycliffe intersection, Durham. A170: Temporary lights at Sutton Bank, E of Thirsk, North Yorkshire. A644: Temporary lights on Huddersfield Road, Mirfield, West Yorkshire.

Wales and West: M4: Lane closure between junctions 15 and 16 (Swindon and Chippenham): diversions. M5: Lane closures between junctions 13 and 14 (Stroud and Thornbury). Silver Street, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, partially closed becasue of road-work: diversion.

Scotland: M9: Lane closures between junctions 5 and 7 (Grangemouth and Kincardine Bridge). High Street, Edinburgh: Road Closed between St Mary's Street and John Knox House; diversions.

The papers

"Buying a house? Then beware of Labour," the Daily Express warns its readers. "The Labour Party has just succeeded in blocking tax relief to house purchasers borrowing more than £25,000. . . This displays the Left's deep antagonism to home ownership . . . but is only the first straw in the wind".

"Round one of the great election battle has hardly begun and both sides are already calling foul", says the Daily Star. But what did they expect? This is a general election, not a tea dance . . . and the Daily Star will be peering through the smoke of battle and looking closely on the generals before telling you which way we think your vote should go".

Anniversaries

Today is Ascension Day.

Births: **Edward Lear**, London, 1812; **Florence Nightingale**, Florence, 1820; **Lincoln Ellsworth**, explorer and scientist, Chicago, 1880. Deaths: **Bedrich Smetana**, Prague, 1884; **Amy Lowell**, poet, Brookline, Massachusetts, 1925; **Josef Pilsudski**, prime minister of Poland 1926-28, 1930, Warsaw, 1935. Coronation of George VI, 1937.

Weather forecast

Troughs of low pressure will circulate around a depression which is centred over Ireland.

6 am to midnight

London, SE England, East Anglia, Channel Islands: Outbreaks of thundery rain, drier and clearer later; wind variable, light; max temp 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

Central S, SW England, Midlands, Wales: Showers, some heavy and prolonged, perhaps thunder, also bright intervals; wind S to SW, moderate; max temp 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands: Showers some heavy and prolonged later, perhaps thunder, also bright intervals; wind S to SE, moderate; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

NW, central N England, Lake District: Scattered showers, sunny intervals; wind SE, light or moderate; max temp 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

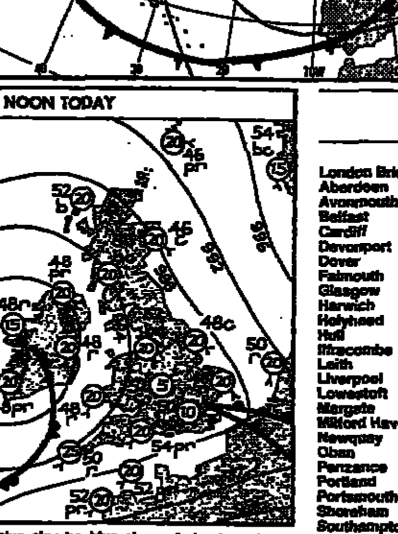
Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Sunny periods, scattered showers developing, wind variable, mainly SE, light; max temp 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).

Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals, scattered showers, wind E to NE, moderate; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Continuing unsettled; rather cold at first.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind SE strong, becoming light for a time, then veering SW; sea moderate. **Straits of Dover, English Channel (E):** Wind SW, moderate, increasing strong; sea slight, becoming moderate to rough. **St George's Channel:** Wind S or SW fresh to strong, occasionally gale; sea moderate or rough. **Irish Sea:** Wind S, fresh to strong, occasionally gale; sea moderate or rough.

Sun rises: 5.14 am — Sun sets: 8.40 pm
Moon rises: 5.26 am — Moon sets: 8.19 pm
New moon: 8.25 pm.



b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

Lighting-up time

London 9.10 pm to 4.43 am
Bristol 9.20 pm to 4.53 am
Edinburgh 9.42 pm to 4.35 am
Manchester 9.27 pm to 4.43 am
Penzance 9.27 pm to 5.10 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	8	46	Guernsey	f	10	50
Birmingham	r	8	46	Inverness	f	11	52
Blackpool	f	12	54	Jersey	f	10	50
Bristol	f	7	45	London	c	11	52
Cardiff	f	10	50	Manchester	c	11	52
Edinburgh	c	11	52	Newcastle	r	8	46
Glasgow	r	10	50	Ronaldsway	o	8	46

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 13C (55F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 6 pm, 83 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.13in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 7.1hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 989.9 millibars rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

Highest and lowest

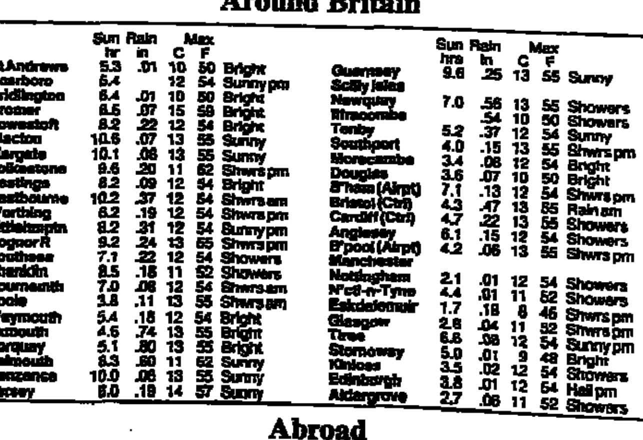
Yesterday: Highest day temp: Cromer, 15C (59F); lowest day max: Fifeness, St Abbs Head, 8C (46F); highest rainfall: Torquay, 2.08in; highest sunshine: Clacton, 10.6hr.

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.10	6.8	2.38	7.1
Aberdeen	1.50	4.0	1.52	4.1
Avonmouth	7.42	12.9	8.03	13.0
Belfast	11.27	3.2	11.48	3.2
Cardiff	7.28	11.9	7.48	12.0
Devonport	6.13	5.3	6.40	5.4
Dover	11.27	6.4	11.44	6.5
Falmouth	5.43	5.1	6.10	5.2
Glasgow	1.14	4.3	1.40	4.5
Harwich	12.02	3.9	12.30	4.0
Holyhead	10.48	5.5	11.10	5.5
Hull	6.54	7.1	7.04	7.3
Ilfracombe	5.30	8.9	6.49	9.0
Leith	3.01	5.3	3.12	5.5
Liverpool	11.47	8.3		
Lowestoft	10.18	2.3	10.15	2.4
Margate	12.08	4.6	12.44	4.7
Milford Haven	6.42	6.9	7.01	7.0
Newquay	5.33	6.9	5.52	7.0
Oban	6.19	4.0	6.34	3.9
Penzance	5.11	5.4	5.38	5.5
Portland	7.27	2.0	8.01	2.1
Portsmouth	11.55	4.6		
Shoreham	11.42	6.0		
Southampton	11.30	4.4	11.50	4.5
Swansea	6.49	9.3	7.07	9.5
Tees	4.10	5.2	4.18	5.3
Walton-on-Naze			12.25	4.2

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain



	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
St Andrews	5.3	.01	10	50	Bright	Guernsey	9.6	.25	13	55	Sunny
Scarboro	6.4		12	54	Sunny pm	Scilly Isles					
Bridlington	6.4	.01	10	50	Bright	Newquay	7.0	.56	13	55	Showers
Cromer	6.5	.07	15	59	Bright	Ilfracombe		.54	10	50	Showers
Lowestoft	8.2	.22	12	54	Bright	Tenby	5.2	.37	12	54	Sunny
Clacton	10.6	.07	13	55	Sunny	Southport	4.0	.15	13	55	Shwrs pm
Margate	10.1	.06	13	55	Sunny	Morecambe	3.4	.08	12	54	Bright
Folkestone	9.6	.20	11	52	Shwrs pm	Douglas	3.6	.07	10	50	Bright
Hastings	8.2	.09	12	54	Bright	B'ham (Airpt)	7.1	.13	12	54	Shwrs pm
Eastbourne	10.2	.37	12	54	Shwrs am	Bristol (Ctrl)	4.3	.47	13	55	Rain am
Worthing	6.2	.19	12	54	Shwrs pm	Cardiff (Ctrl)	4.7	.22	13	55	Showers
Littlehmptn	8.2	.31	12	54	Sunny pm	Anglesey	6.1	.15	12	54	Showers
Bognor R	9.2	.24	13	55	Shwrs pm	B'pool (Airpt)	4.2	.06	13	55	Shwrs pm
Southsea	7.1	.22	12	54	Showers	Manchester					
Shanklin	8.5	.16	11	52	Showers	Nottingham	2.1	.01	12	54	Showers
Bournemth	7.0	.06	12	54	Shwrs am	N'cstl-n-Tyne	4.4	.01	11	52	Showers
Poole	3.8	.11	13	55	Shwrs am	Eskdalemuir	1.7	.18	8	46	Shwrs pm
Weymouth	5.4	.18	12	54	Bright	Glasgow	2.8	.04	11	52	Shwrs pm
Exmouth	4.6	.74	13	55	Bright	Tiree	6.6	.08	12	54	Sunny pm
Torquay	5.1	.80	13	55	Bright	Stornoway	5.0	.01	9	48	Bright
Falmouth	8.3	.60	11	52	Sunny	Kinloss	3.5	.02	12	54	Showers
Penzance	10.0	.06	13	55	Sunny	Edinburgh	3.8	.01	12	54	Hail pm
Jersey	6.0	.19	14	57	Sunny	Aldergrove	2.7	.06	11	52	Showers

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	c	19	66	Copenhgn	r	9	48	Majorca	f	22	72	Rio de Jan*	c	26	79
Akrotiri	s	23	73	Corfu	s	22	72	Malaga	s	22	72	Rome	f	21	70
Alexandria	f	26	79	Dallas*	c	19	66	Malta*	f	21	70	Salzburg	f	18	64
Algiers	f	22	72	Dublin	f	12	54	Melbourne	s	16	61	Sao Paulo*	c	26	79
Amsterdam	r	9	48	Dubrovnik	s	18	64	Mexico C*	f	27	81	S Francisco*	s	14	57
Athens	s	22	72	Faro	f	20	68	Miami				Santiago*	s	20	68
Bahrain	s	32	90	Florence	f	21	70	Milan	f	18	64	Seoul	s	27	81
Barbados*	c	29	84	Frankfurt	c	13	55	Montreal*	r	6	43	Singapore	r	27	81
Barcelona	f	17	63	Funchal	c	19	66	Moscow	f	19	66	Stockholm	c	12	54
Beirut	s	25	77	Geneva	c	11	52	Munich	f	14	57	Strasbourg	r	11	52
Belgrade	f	23	73	Gibraltar	c	20	68	Nairobi	f	25	77	Sydney*	s	20	68
Berlin	r	15	59	Helsinki	r	10	50	Naples	f	18	64	Tangier	f	18	64
Bermuda*	f	24	75	Hongkong	c	29	84	New Delhi	f	27	81	Tel Aviv			
Biarritz	d	10	50	Innsbruck	f	16	61	New York*	s	16	61	Tenerife	s	24	75
Boulogne	c	9	48	Istanbul	f	17	63	Nice	r	19	66	Tokyo	f	24	75
Bordeaux	c	14	57	Jeddah	s	35	95	Oslo	c	10	50	Toronto*	s	14	57
Brussels	r	10	50	Jo'burg	s	21	70	Ottawa				Tunis	f	23	73
Budapest	f	19	66	Karachi*	f	31	88	Paris	r	9	48	Valencia	s	23	73
Buen Aires*	f	18	64	Las Palmas	s	21	70	Peking	c	22	72	Vancouver*	c	12	54
Cairo	s	34	93	Lisbon	r	15	59	Perth	s	25	77	Venice	f	20	68
Cape Tn	s	17	63	Locarno	r	9	48	Prague	f	15	59	Vienna	f	16	61
C'blanca	f	19	66	L Angeles*	s	18	64	Reykjavik	f	5	41	Warsaw	f	18	64
Chicago*	f	19	66	Luxembg	r	7	45	Rhodes	f	22	72	Washington*	s	18	64
Cologne	c	13	55	Madrid	f	15	59	Riyadh	c	37	99	Zurich	r	10	50

* denotes Tuesday's figures are latest available